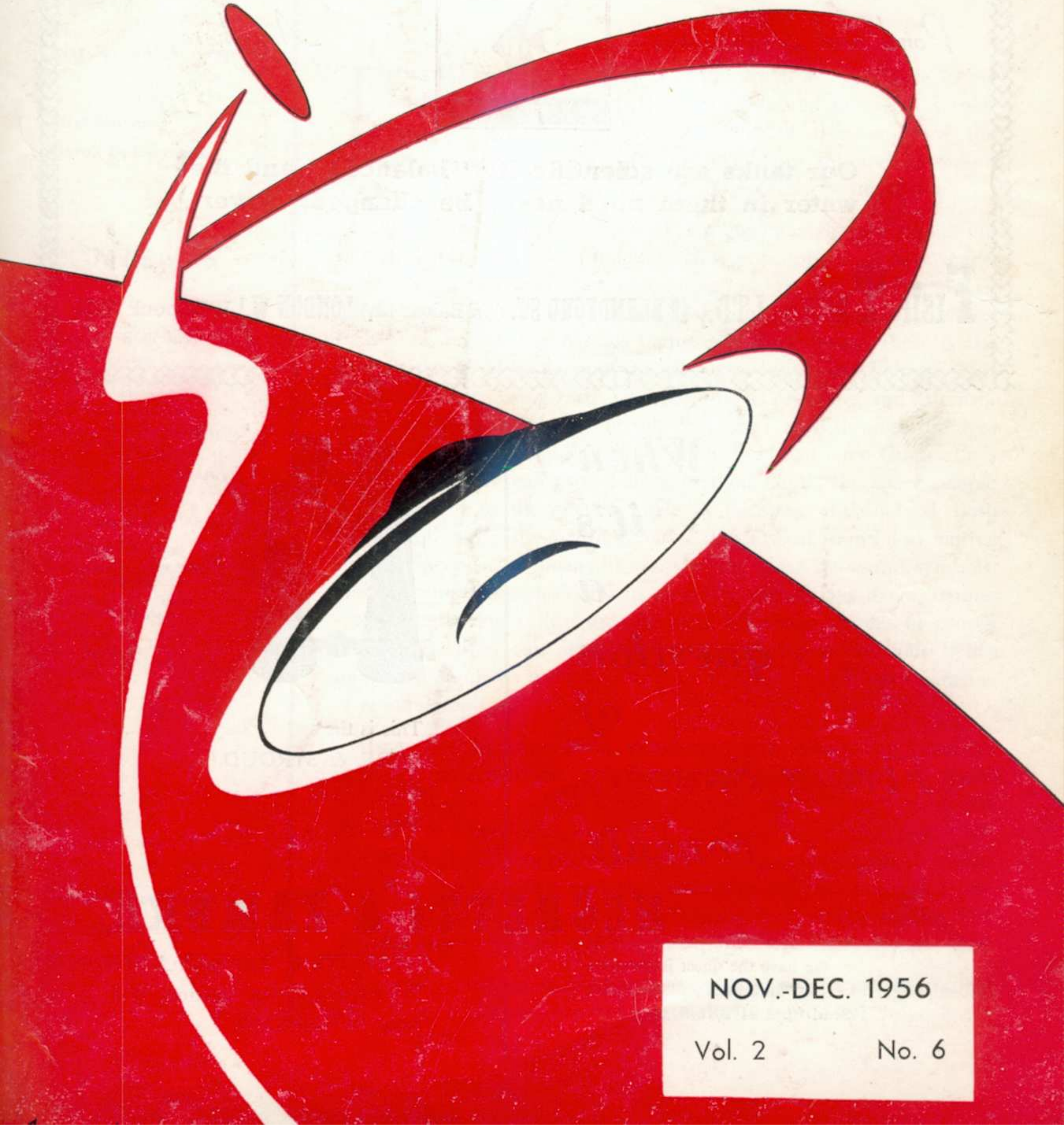
FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

P2 Elizabeth Klarer case



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FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

INCORPORATING FLYING SAUCER NEWS

Vol. 2 No. 6 **November-December, 1956**

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THE SETTING of patterns is of the greatest importance in the world today. The old patterns, highlighted in recent weeks, have brought mankind to the brink of disaster. Now the kaleidoscope changes, new patterns are being set and conscious co-operation with these can yet lead us away from the abyss.

Einstein's mathematical formula ($E=mc^2$) has already revolutionised both physics and cosmogony. New conceptions of time-space, conscious infinity and continuous creation, are having their effect on the spiritual, mental and physical terms of reference in which man lives, moves and has his being. Not least among these is the virtual world-wide acceptance of extra-terrestrial beings. This acceptance may bring forth new patterns as revealing and astonishing as the patterns of our current civilisation seen through the eyes of one of the " stone age " tribes lately found in New Guinea.

From what we can now deduce of their being, the space people are cognisant of the energy world of patterns, and, indeed, both mould and work this medium, as we do those of sound and motive power. Speech is a means of transferring ideas by sound symbols, and this method is used by us in the world today; if we assume space people can utilise the universal life-energy forces to propel their craft, they can similarly sustain themselves without being immersed in air as we know it, making speech useless as a means of communication.

Many people have been wondering why there has been no apparent pattern to the contacts that the space people have made with us. If you sit behind a café window and try to attract the attention of a particular, or even of any passer-by without gesticulating, you will find the pattern of those who respond is by no means uniform. The sensitive and the subjective will be convinced you spoke to them in person, others will just get an uneasy feeling that they are being watched and the vast majority will merely plod past.

Assuming that you deemed it inadvisable to make a *public* landing, what then would you as a space-man do for humanity?

LANDING IN SOUTH AFRICA

A FLYING SAUCER landed in South Africa on April 7, this year, according to reports that have just reached FLYING SAUCER REVIEW. The occupants contacted Mrs. Elizabeth Klarer, whose personal account of the contact and her subsequent flight in the saucer is given below in her own words. Her story is strongly backed up and vouched for by Mr. Edgar Sievers, of Pretoria, the well-known South African saucer investigator, whose book, *Flying Saucers über Südafrika,* is shortly to appear in an English edition.

The setting for this epochal event was the Mooi River area in Natal, at the foot of the Drakensberg Range. When Mrs. Klarer was a child of seven she saw a spaceship—a great orange-red wheel as large as a football, move slowly across the sky over the rolling foothills of the Drakensberg. That changed her whole life and she always hoped that one day a craft would return.

It was in a familiar spot near the old estate, where the family lived, that a preliminary attempt to contact Mrs. Klarer was made on December 27, 1954. At about 10 a.m. Elizabeth Klarer had her first surprise on a lonely hilltop when a saucer came gliding down.

" When I saw the flash in the southern sky, but nothing more," she said, " there was plenty of fairweather cumulus about—then what I thought was a white bird caught my eye. Looking at it very hard, I realised it was no bird. The sun glinted on the craft as it glided down to hover a few feet above the northern slope.

" The craft was so close to me I could see clearly the face of the pilot through the porthole. Yet, through uncertainty and fright, I instinctively stepped back or recoiled from the strangeness of it all, but my gaze remained fixed in a fascinated stare upon the face of the pilot. The most handsome man I have ever seen. He was blond, his eyes gave me the impression at that distance of being light grey. He smiled at me to reassure, but I backed away.

"Then the craft slowly rose and moved away in a southerly direction, until it disappeared in the distance. I stood rooted to the spot. I was left with my remorse and my reproaches for being so stupid.

" For 15 long months I reproached myself, but always hoping that possibly I would have another chance. I continually went out in all weather and dreadful storms. But I have a family of two dependent on me, so their demands took first place, and I gradually became more patient."

Mr. Edgar Sievers, commenting on Mrs. Klarer at that period, emphasised most strongly that she is a normal healthy woman, who does not suffer from any " psychicisms." He describes her as a " gifted pianist and music teacher, with studies accomplished in Italy and England and with a wide range of intellectual interests ranging from history to astronomy, an enthusiastic traveller, a lover of nature in general and of horses in particular, attractive Elizabeth Klarer has both her feet on the ground, no less than any other woman would who has to look after her family."

Mr. Sievers said that Mrs. Klarer did nothing but think of this saucer, hoping and longing that it would return.

" For all those who have noticed already that they are able to establish with their dogs or their horses an inner contact all of its own the following point will be a familiar and sensible one; and it is this point which most definitely enters the picture from here on," he affirmed.

" There are modes of awareness between living beings which are transensorial, i.e. which take place beyond the usual boundaries of sensual and sensorial control. Where a rider and a horse are

All those associated with " Flying Saucer Review " take this opportunity of wishing readers all over the world a very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

at one in this way, the horse acts prompted by the mere intentions of its human friend. Mrs. Klarer, too, is gifted to a point where she establishes immediate contact with horses. Where that particular awareness is spanned from man to man to such a degree that it becomes a somewhat conscious link, we have usually been talking of telepathy and thought transference.

"Not only from George Adamski do we know that this mode of awareness comes into play, too, where relations to spacemen are concerned. There are many people in this world already who do have sensations of an indefinable kind whenever a saucer is near. Stephen Darbishire, in Coniston, England, acted on such promptings, another youth in our country, Ernst van Zyl, aged 17 then, did so and, following the hunch, had found a saucer, and likewise is Elizabeth Klarer affected when there is something 'in the air.' At least on two occasions she took friends along with her when prompted by those sensations, and saucers were actually seen.

"In an unbroken period of almost four years, in which Adamski has been talking to all who were ready to listen with discerning ear and an attentive mind, a period in which he has not hidden himself, as an impostor would have done, nor faded from public memory, as could have been expected of a hoaxer duly found out, his words have not only been ringing true, they necessarily were and are the truth. Because only truth could have withstood such a barrage of

suspicion, scorn, mockery, disbelief, ridicule and slander from every corner of the world converging on Mount Palomar in print, sound waves and by mind force.

"While Elizabeth Klarer has mustered the courage to come forward and to henceforth stand this very same test of acid publicity, there are many who know her personally and who will vouchsafe for her sincerity, as well as her truthfulness, and her integrity. Like Adamski, she will likewise stand and fall with the veracity of her claims and the absolute truth in her spoken word."

"This personal angle is so all-important," said Mr. Sievers, "because this encounter with a man from space is without direct evidence. Nor is it very likely that, had she direct proof and evidence, any of those who either cannot or else do not want to believe would let themselves be convinced.

"The restraint of the spacemen in their appearances is proof enough that they do not intend to interfere with our inner development forcibly, rather is all this being wisely measured to such a pace as will give everybody the chance to get accustomed to the thought and the fact that human beings are living on nearby planets.

"Mrs. Klarer had taken her daughter Marilyn, who is a medical student, and son David, aged seven, to Durban for a few days by the sea, when on Friday, April 6, this year, she experienced a compelling feeling to return to the farm and to her familiar hilltop, and so back they all went to the homestead.

"Early next morning, Saturday, April 7, that particular feeling having persisted, Elizabeth Klarer slipped out and after a brisk walk reached the hilltop, about 2½ miles away."

Now Mrs. Klarer takes up the story again:

"On reaching the top of the southern slope, I saw the scoutship resting on the ground near the eastern slope of the dip. The rising sun had not topped the slope, so the craft was in the shadow. My immediate reaction was not to hesitate as I had done the first time, but to run as fast as I could—I felt as if I had wings to my feet—down that very rough slope, straight to the tall blond man standing near the craft. It was the most natural thing for me to do, because I felt that I had known him all my life.

"I stretched out both my hands to him, and he took them saying, 'You were not afraid this time.'

He helped me step into the craft—the automatic door closed—and he gently sat me down on a soft circular bench, where I was able to regain my breath. What helped me more than anything was the wonderful invigorating freshness of the air in the cabin.

"An awful doubt assailed me when I saw the other pilot sitting at the controls. He was dark and stocky. So, without thinking, I asked the tall spaceman, 'Oh, you are not a Russian, are you?' He smiled and answered, 'I am not from any place on this planet that you call Earth. I am from Venus.'

"The interior of the craft was simple, and beautiful to my mind. None of the mass of instruments and wires over dashboard and walls as in modern aircraft, but simple rows of push-buttons on some kind of a desk. None of the stuffy smell of fuel—it was all clean, efficient and simple. A gentle humming sound, soothing and pleasant, emanated from the floor of the craft, which gave me a sense of power and security.

"The porthole covers were open. Three sets of four. I looked out of one. I could see for miles, but it was far too hazy, and I was unable to see immediately below, because the hull of the craft was in the way. I did not think at first to look through the floor lens, until the Venusian gently drew my attention to it!

"The wonderful sight of rolling green country was breathtaking—I could now see clearly for miles—even the line of blue sea in the distance.

"The tall spaceman and his companion were wearing dark-brownish suits, the trousers narrowing down to the ankles, the shirt sleeves narrowing to the wrists and a high neckline. They were close-fitting garments, but light and comfortable, made of a material not unlike a coarse shiny nylon.

"I was given refreshing water to drink, and a delicious red apple and other fruit similar to bananas. They are vegetarians. No wonder that they live and enjoy health so much longer than we do, with their diet and breathing such wonderful air. Yes, the tall, soft-spoken Venusian told me that the air I had been enjoying so much in the craft was Venusian air! He told me that there is a higher oxygen content in the Venusian atmosphere—that is, in the lowest strata of the atmosphere. That lower strata of the Venusian atmosphere is out of reach of the instruments used by scientists on Earth. The upper atmospheric envelope is poisonous and hot—ex-

tremely hot. He told me there is a great deal of water on Venus, and many rugged, high and beautiful mountains.

"The houses on Venus are built in a circular pattern—some are made of a special material that permits the light to come through, but does not expose the occupants to the view of anyone on the outside. I said that I would love to go to Venus and to the Moon. Our Moon is not a dead world. Space people are based there. How kind, civilised and cultured they are!

"They are wise and understanding. They are watching us closely now that man is moving into space, and we have stated that the Moon is our first target. This will concern them vitally. Man will take war into space.

"The tall Venusian, who spoke perfect English, told me how for a limited period he had lived and studied on Earth, travelling to various cities to see for himself how mankind lived and behaved. He was sad to see the mode of existence, precarious, and always with the threat of war. Aggressive, dominating nations would continue to rise to power, nations that are still uncivilised. The power of brute force still was rampant in the world. That was the tragedy, he told me, therefore how can the space people land amongst us?

"There was plenty of room to walk around in the cabin, but my whole attention was held by the personality of the spaceman. We talked about music, real and beautiful music. Not about the primitive jungle noise that is so popular through-

out this world. The space people are highly sensitive to sounds—and music is a realm in which they all excel. Music is a part of their life. To most earth people it is an education that takes many years to accomplish—if not a lifetime—and there are those on earth who can never understand music.

"I felt no movement in the craft at all, beyond the gentle humming. I was told they used natural forces to propel the saucer. How wonderful to harness these forces that the universe is made of. That is why eventually man must have a complete understanding of nature and the universe—until he does, he is tied to limited mentality and capacities.

"The Venusian, who was sitting next to me as we conversed, said, 'I must now return you to the hill where I found you. Our time is up. Also David needs you. He is ill.' With sadness at leaving mingled with anxiety to return to see my son, we descended to land with a gentle touchdown on the hill.

"Both spacemen were very kind, gentle and considerate. The younger, shorter one had an olive skin and the older, taller Venusian had a fair golden-hued one. The metal of the craft was smooth polished to touch, like a mirror. The automatic door opened and the tall Venusian led me through. Sadly, I waved goodbye, as I backed away from the craft and then stood to watch them take off. Without a sound she rose slowly to hover for a moment—the rays from the setting sun flashing in rainbow colours on her sides, then gathering speed glided away into the southern sky."

Mrs. Klarer hurried home and found all as had been told her. David had a severe sore throat, which she was able to attend to.

Mr. Sievers concludes the narrative:

"There is no need to try and assess the feelings which had accompanied these experiences, or those that must have filled her heart for days and weeks on end.

"The family was back on the farm in the summer. Mrs. Klarer was strangely expectant. On the morning of July 17, about 11 a.m., when everybody was settling down for a nice cup of tea, she however preferred to get up and go out into the open. On her way she picked up the box camera of her daughter. She had climbed an elevation, this time not very far from the homestead. While she was watching a storm brewing in the south with massive thunderclouds forming over the Berg, out from among the clouds a saucer, *the* saucer, appeared. It flew all around her, showing its paces and doing various manœuvres. It was coming and going, in and out of the clouds, generally offering her the opportunity to use up the film, which she did, 'shooting' away at the craft. Of seven photographs taken, two or three were particularly good, sharp, defined and convincing (as illustrated), while the rest were blurred.

"Negatives and object have been examined and studied. Nobody could find anything that would arouse his suspicions. The family of Major Flowers, Elizabeth Klarer's brother-in-law, is in the position to testify that she took the photographs all by herself. No, there was no one to 'help her throw the hub-cap into the air,' as it immediately has been advanced, of course."

"Apart from Mrs. Klarer being of too frail a stature to be able to handle hub-caps and a box camera at the same time, we have," Mr. Sievers stated, "despite long-lasting effort, yet to discover that particular make of hub-cap which she could possibly have used. There simply is none that would come even half as near to the design of the saucer as it appears on the negative. The craft is of the type about 50 to 60 ft. in diameter, with a flat and wide dome, not with the half-sphere dome as seen on Adamski's and Allingham's photographs. Incidentally, saucers and a carrier ship have been seen over Major Flower's estate on more than one occasion. The hope is that these developments will not yet have come to their end."

WORLD ROUNDUP

AFRICA

Transvaal

Huge saucer over Birchleigh. On Friday, September 21, a very cold and windy day, there appeared in a clear sky at about 11.30 a.m. over Birchleigh, a large, shining, silvery-grey saucer. To the observer it seemed to be less than 1,000 ft. high and less than a mile away, leisurely travelling in wide sweeping circles. Its general direction of travel was northwards towards Pretoria, where, according to a newspaper report of that day, a u.f.o. was seen over Pretoria, at about the same time.

Its angle of inclination, in relation to the horizontal of the horizon, frequently changed in an assuredly manœuvred, spinning, hovering flight, lasting about 5 minutes, when it suddenly accelerated to terrific speed and in a few seconds vanished upwards at a steep angle into the sky. Throughout the duration of its appearance it left in its wake a light-reflecting vaporous trail.

Upon the instant of its disappearing there shot back, with startling suddenness, along the line of this vapour trail, something resembling a flash of lightning or rocket which nearly struck the ground, before its disintegration and disappearance. All this occurred in absolute silence.

The relative size of the flying saucer appeared to be three or four times that of the familiar air liners (Jan Smuts Air Port is only five miles away) —indeed something of quite considerable superiority, dimensions and power.

AMERICA

U.S.A.

Airmen and civilians spot mystery orange object. An unexplained u.f.o., described by separate witnesses as a "shining triangle" and an "orange ball," hovered in the sky near Kalispell, Montana, most of the night of September 3-4. Finally, it disappeared in a westerly direction.

Five Starfire jet interceptors from Malstrom Air Force Base were "scrambled" in an attempt to sight the object, but were thwarted by low clouds. The planes were equipped with radar.

Air Force and civilian officials viewed the object and were unable to explain it away as a natural phenomena.

Radar was unable to pick it up, but it was plainly visible to the eye.

The Helena Air Force Filter Centre said T./Sgt. Carl Clark, of Kalispell, told them it appeared to be triangular in shape and was surrounded by a bright yellow glow.

Airman Robert Coleman, of Gainsville, Fla., who co-ordinated the search for the object from the filter centre, quoted Clark as saying "it seemed to move sometimes to the east and sometimes to the west a few degrees."

Clark said it hovered about 4,000 feet in the air seven miles south-west of Kalispell. It first was sighted about 10 p.m. and disappeared at 5 a.m.

"At about 5 or 5.30 a.m. the object eased off to the west and then disappeared with daylight," Coleman said.

At times during the night the object became brighter and then dimmer. Once in a while it faded out of sight entirely but later it would come back into view.

"It remains a mystery," Coleman said.

Eddy Geddes, of Kalispell, former Commander of a Civil Air Patrol squadron and a veteran pilot, was the first to spot the object, which he said appeared to be an "orangeish ball."

He said it slowed in its flight and seemed to be travelling south. At the time of his first observation of the ball, he said it was at a low altitude.

"I've done considerable flying around the valley," Geddes said, "and I know it wasn't an obstruction light."

Geddes and his wife watched the light, which would seem to fade, then change position, continually moving south and gaining altitude. (This version differed from the Air Force one, which said that the light moved east and west and remained at the same altitude.)

He drove to the Ground Observer Corps tower on Buffalo Hill, north of Kalispell, to report the

sighting. This report was relayed to the Air Force Filter Centre in Helena.

Geddes said he called a number of other persons to watch the ball "so I wouldn't be the only one who had gone berserk."

"It was circular and very bright," Geddes said. "We kept it in sight until about 2 a.m. Jet planes came into the area about 12.45 a.m. It was an unusually long time to keep such a thing in view."

Geddes said the ball seemed to move down the range of mountains to the east, moving south and remaining in a southerly direction. He said it kept gaining altitude rapidly.

The former C.A.P. commander said that at about 11.30 p.m. the light started to climb. He said the clouds may have appeared to make it look faded at times.

"I'm no astronomer, but I know the stars don't travel north and south," he said.

This could well be one of the most verified sightings in modern times of a flying saucer.

Cattle rustling by flying saucer. The state of Idaho has just recorded the world's first-known instance of cattle rustling by flying saucer.

"A flying saucer put the snatch on a 400-pound steer at a ranch 40 miles south of Twin Falls during the week-end September 8-9," reports Inez Robb in the *New York World-Telegram and Sun* on September 14.

"At least, the steer was there one minute and gone the next split second, just after a flying saucer, 200 feet in diameter, settled momentarily in its vicinity.

"There were three witnesses to this lawlessness. E. L. Rayburn, prominent Twin Falls attorney and owner of both the ranch and the luckless but historic steer, and two employees, Joe and Dick Parker, saw the flying saucer make the snatch.

"'Then the object sped off like a streak of light and the steer was gone,' Mr. Rayburn told the sheriff at Twin Falls County.

"Both the attorney and his two employees realised at once that they were dealing with new-type rustlers, and that it was useless to saddle up and try to head 'em off at the pass."

ASIA

Japan

Twenty witnesses saw saucer. FLYING SAUCER REVIEW'S special correspondent in Japan, Mr. Yusuke Matsumura, states that at least 20 people in Shibaura, Tokyo, spotted a flying saucer on the night of August 3. Mr. Kazuo Ozaki told our correspondent that the sighting occurred around midnight. The object was in view for approximately 30 seconds. There was no sound as it travelled from the north-east to the south-west of the city. It changed colour from orange to white-blue.

Strange light seen before typhoon. A strange light was seen over Yokohama on the night of September 26, a few hours before Typhoon No. 15, "Harriet," hit the Tokyo-Yokohama area. The light was estimated to be at about 3,000 metres altitude and changed colour from ultra-yellow to red-orange.

Singapore

Amazing photos taken by physician. A Singapore physician has photographed mysterious lights in the sky over the colony on Tuesday, July 24, and asked if they were flying saucers.

The photographs, published in the *Straits Times*, showed a bright patch of light and two small dots alongside it.

The physician, Dr. J. L. Bennet, who saw the lights from his back garden at about 8.20 p.m., said: "At first, they looked like searchlights—but there were no beams.

"When they moved they went faster than a jet fighter. Suddenly they came together and hovered like two helicopters. Then they separated at tremendous speed and finally they disappeared. They were not meteors. They were not aircraft. What were they?"

[Readers are referred to FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, Vol. 2, No. 4, page 26, for an account of night photographs taken by a Salisbury, Rhodesia, photographer.—Ed.]

AUSTRALASIA

Fiji Islands

Sky object puzzles islanders. Hundreds were puzzled by a u.f.o. which appeared over Suva shortly after 7 p.m. on Friday, August 3, and was still visible at 3 a.m. the next morning.

Mr. Hari Ram, a science master at the Marist Brothers' College in the city, said he saw a spindle-shaped deep golden light moving to the north from the east.

Three distinct rods of light radiated. The longest was vertical and its tapering end was curved and diffused.

For more than one hour the rays continually changed and several times assumed the shape of a plus sign.

The meteorological office at Laucala Bay could not explain the object.

New Zealand

Cigar-shaped object over Hokitika. Mr. L. Provis was at Takutai, near Hokitika, on Tuesday night, September 4, when he saw at about 10 p.m. a bright cigar-shaped object in the sky.

The cigar was in a vertical position with the top end rounded off and the bottom tapered. It was in a westerly direction just over the sea. He said that there were a number of smaller objects of the same shape at the lower end of the big one. All were stationary. "It was quite uncanny," said Mr. Provis.

Hundreds of people stop work to skygaze. A small white object hovered high in the sky at Aburiri on the morning of September 12. Hundreds of people stopped work and lined the pavements, gazing upwards. Mr. R. E. Gannaway, of the Aburiri Post Office, who was one of the first to see the object, said originally it appeared to be stationary. It was very high and when it first appeared to move it did so very slowly. Later it appeared to stop and then to move again.

It was about half an hour after the first object was sighted, that several people reported seeing two more discs speeding southward.

It is stated that no weather balloons were set loose in the Napier area that morning.

EUROPE

Great Britain

A hiking party of four, consisting of Messrs. B. Henser, John Boothroyd, A. J. Gingell and D. Elliott, were returning to Ilkley from Bolton Abbey, Yorkshire, after an enjoyable day out on September 24, when they had a most unusual sighting.

Mr. Henser has sent FLYING SAUCER REVIEW an account of it, signed by all members of the party.

"We were climbing up Beamsley Beacon when we saw a huge white bird in the sky. We watched this for a while and then, simultaneously· Mr. Elliott and I saw a bright round orange sphere. It hovered there for about five minutes. Then it went below the ridge of the hill, very slowly and gracefully.

"We hurried on to see if we could see any more of it, but whilst we were still some way from the summit it appeared again. This time, it disappeared after only about 30 seconds.

"When we arrived at the top, there was not a sign of it.

"That is the true full account of what we saw. No one believes us, but four people saw it."

Ten unknown objects over Bournemouth Bay. Mr. and Mrs. H. W. G. Mitchell, hoteliers, of Clifton House Hotel, Undercliff Road, saw a number of strange objects hovering over Boscombe Pier one night in mid-October.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE

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"I saw them at about midnight," said Mr. Mitchell.

"There were ten of them, pear-shaped objects, brighter than a star, and of a white colour turning to blue. They weren't moving in any particular direction—just hovering together."

Well-authenticated sightings over Rugby. Mr. Ernest Booker, 45-year-old former squadron-leader in the R.A.F., who lives at 40, Lower Hillmorton Road, Rugby, saw two very bright lights moving across the sky towards Coventry, at a height of, perhaps, 1,500 ft., just after 9 p.m. on Tuesday, October 23.

Yet, close as they seemed to be, no sound accompanied them.

"The lights could not have been attached to balloons drifting with the wind, because the wind was blowing in another direction, and they would not have been on gliders," said Mr. Booker.

He said the lights were travelling at "a comparatively leisurely speed" and were brighter than normal aircraft lights. When one changed course the other followed. The former squadron-leader added that there was no question of the lights being shooting stars.

Another former R.A.F. man, Mr. Christopher Orton, of Stocks Lane, Thurlaston, backed up Mr. Booker's statement and said he had also seen two exceptionally bright, yellow-orange lights the very next night, which seemed to be attached fore and aft to something quite out of the ordinary. Not a sound could be heard as the lights swept to the south of his house, and turned sharply, finally heading eastwards and disappearing beyond the lights of the mast at Rugby Radio Station.

To cap all this, the lights were seen again for the third night running. **A pilot of an R.A.F. fighter aircraft pursued what he thought was some huge flying object near Coventry, but gave up the chase when it drew away from him at a tremendous speed.**

The pilot who chased the lights was climbing at about 25,000 ft. when there appeared above him two very bright amber-coloured lights, apparently fore and aft on some very large object.

"There were no navigation lights and the thing was much too fast for me, so I got back on course."

Amazing daylight sightings over London. Mr. Adrian A. C. Mills and a friend, while at business in North Row, W.1, at about 2.15 p.m. on November 8, saw an object moving slowly SSW. It was at an angle of 20° with the southern horizon. The object was very bright and shapeless as it appeared to reflect the sunlight. Mr. Mills went outside for a better view as it was vanishing behind the buildings opposite. He did not see it again.

He was outside for about 10 minutes and when he returned inside, a third person who was talking to his friend at the window saw a similar object for a few seconds before it, too, vanished behind the houses. This was at the same angle and travelling in an easterly direction.

While they were discussing these objects, Mr. Mills looked into the sky and saw a bright star-like object, very high, at about 60° with the horizon facing south. It appeared to be motionless. Mr. Mills ranged it against the edge of the window frame. It remained in sight from about 2.40 p.m. until it was covered by high filmy cloud at 2.50 p.m. When the cloud had passed at 3.10 p.m. they could not find it again. While it was in the middle of this cloud, a bright object flew from the south at 45° towards the NE., above and behind their building. He thought this last object was an aeroplane reflecting sunlight, but the others disagreed.

At 3.40 p.m., while leaving the building, Mr. Mills looked into the sky to see two diamond shapes form as they flew east in close formation, from approximately south at about 70° with the horizon. He had these in view for about seven seconds, during which time they became brighter as they flew eastwards—but not like reflected light, more like milk white. Then they gradually faded, keeping the same size. They appeared to travel the distance of three feet at arm's length.

At 4.10 p.m., on returning, he saw the star-like object again, or something very similar, a little to the NE. of the previous position. It gradually moved NE., over a distance of two hands' width, until it faded at 4.30 p.m.

MR. LUTTERWORTH IS COMING!

THE CONSPIRACY OF SILENCE

by John Lade

IN APRIL, 1952, Albert K. Bender, of Bridgeport, Conn., started the International Flying Saucer Bureau. (I joined the British branch, formed by the I.F.S.B. correspondent in Bristol.) Bender displayed organising ability and in July, 1953, his Bureau had a Department of Investigation (five individuals), an International Council and foreign branches in Great Britain, Canada, France, New Zealand and Australia.

In September, 1953, Bender was visited by three men who ordered him to disband his organisation and bound him on his honour as an American citizen not to reveal what they told him. They censored the October issue of *Space Review* (the next—and last I received—appeared in February, 1954, somewhat surprisingly as " A limited and restricted publication," since it dealt almost exclusively with astronomical questions); my copy contains this " Statement of Importance ": " The mystery of the flying saucer is no longer a mystery. The source is already known, but any information about this is being withheld by orders from a higher source. We would like to print the full story in *Space Review*, but because of the nature of the information we are sorry we have been advised in the negative. We advise those engaged in saucer work to please be very cautious."

Silenced

Gray Barker, who was I.F.S.B.'s Chief Investigator, describes in *They Knew Too Much About Flying Saucers* the silencing of Bender and other investigators in Canada, Australia and New Zealand. He and other I.F.S.B. members questioned Bender, but extracted little beyond the fact that he did not think he ought to have been silenced. Bender did say, however, that the Government had known for two years what " flying saucers " are and would release the information " If not within five months from now, not for about four years."

No explanation of this statement has been offered, but I suggest it is political in its implications. Politics are more important in the United States than they are in Britain, because elections are greater in scope and frequency. A President is elected every four years, from candidates chosen by the two main political parties; of Congress, the House of Representatives and one-third of the Senate are subject to election every two years—largely in the year of the Presidential election (known as " election year ") and in the second year of the Presidential term of office. In the third year, political activity already begins working towards a climax at the end of the fourth year and the period is characterised by increasing indecisiveness. Thus, it is during the first year of a Presidential term that announcements and decisions of moment can be made with least political disturbance and most hope of calm acceptance. Such a year was 1953 and will be 1957.

When asked whether the Government would tell the people what " flying saucers " are, Bender is reported by Barker to have replied: " It has got to a point where they will have to." So it seemed to him in 1953, when the subject was receiving increasing publicity; since then, silence has gradually descended.

Why?

That this silence is due to no lack of incidents, meriting publicity in an atmosphere of free information, is shown by Major Donald E. Keyhoe, U.S. Marine Corps, Retired, in *The Flying Saucer Conspiracy*, in which he describes the censorship of a " silence group " in the Pentagon. **As to a possible motive of this group, it is worth quoting the authoritative American source mentioned in the January/February, 1956, issue of " Flying Saucer Review " : ". . . the U.S. wanted her people to concentrate on the real menace—Communism; and not be distracted by the visitors from outer space."** Continued silence creates a morale in the West which lesser authorities and responsible individuals cannot bring themselves to break; in the East, where freedom is inadvertent, news thought to endanger doctrines and personal power is not likely to be given out.

In the meantime, taking advantage of election year in the United States, Colonel Nasser has nationalised the Suez Canal Company (Hitler marched into the Rhineland in election year 1936.) Adlai Stevenson spoke recently in

Washington (*The Times,* September 22) of " the awful fact that within a few months Russia had gained a foothold in the Middle East, which she had sought for centuries." If, in 1960, a move were made at the expense of one of the smaller nations of the area, whose integrity we have—at a cost to ourselves—respected, there would appear moral justification for armed intervention; in turn, intervention by distant nations would seem to the aggressor as attempted resumption of abandoned economic and strategic advantages in a power vacuum, newly and suitably filled. For the world has not yet the necessary unity, by policing, to ban aggression.

[This article was written before the recent military action in Egypt.—Ed.]

Is the National Home of the Jews to be uninhabitable and oil to remain in desert sands, where once stood wells and equipment, while survivors of far-off cities flee from millions they cannot bury and, soon, armed gangs search pallid fields for food, raping and murdering ere they, also, die? Too late, then, bitterly to remember one had said: only Germans (or Communists, or whoever you will) could be so brutal.

It is not profitable to dwell on such nightmares, once awakened from the dream of complacency. Advertising people have proved the appeal to fear is neither the way to sell a commodity nor to prevent accidents. Neither is fear of war—or of reprisal and retaliation—a lasting deterrent to the use of weapons as an instrument of policy. One may ponder this, in the years when great issues are forming.

In his speech to the House of Commons on February 27, 1945, on the results of the Yalta Conference, Winston Churchill said: " I know of no Government which stands to its obligations, even in its own despite, more solidly than the Russian Soviet Government. I decline absolutely to embark here on a discussion about Russian good faith. It is quite evident that these matters touch the whole future of the world. Sombre indeed would be the fortunes of mankind if some awful schism arose between the Western democracies and the Russian Soviet Union, if the future world organisation were rent asunder, and if new cataclysms of inconceivable violence destroyed all that is left of the treasures and liberties of mankind." The schism, foreboding—if not yet awful—has arisen over differing interpretations of democracy. **Shall it mesmerise us—to the point of no distraction?**

Good examples are uplifters of mankind. Just as one gardener in a row of new houses leads his neighbours to bring forth their own ideas of beauty in blossom and lawn, so contact with races that have outgrown war will inspire humanity with confidence in righteousness and innocence.

Does the " silence group " fear that the inhabitants of other planets are so far in advance of earth socially (as they are technically) that we cannot sustain their example? The last sentences of Bender's editorial, in his censored number, declare: " If only the peoples of the world would forget about self-destruction and concentrate on building a better world, there would be work for everyone and no time to think about harming our next-door neighbour. The men in the saucers are much wiser than we think; why should they destroy us, when we will no doubt do it ourselves?"

Barker, seeking some clue, asked: " I would like to write a story to sell to a magazine. Can you give me a good subject to write about?" **Bender replied: " Here is something no one has used before. Suppose there was another world out in space, and there the people were black. What do you think would happen if they came to this planet? Do you think they would help the coloured or the white people? You know the prejudices that exist here, and if they came to Earth, what do you think would happen? It would make a good story, don't you think?"**

Most of the individuals Adamski met were white, but he gives the impression that people vary in other planets, as here, although all are equal. There is a greater social advance, however, for he quotes one as saying: " As you know, with our knowledge of the use and control over energies far more powerful than any our brothers on Earth have learned to use, we could, if we wished, nullify your force with our greater force. But remember what you have been told. We do not kill our fellow-man, even in self-defence. We are trying, and shall continue to try, to prevent such a war by bringing to Earthmen the knowledge of what they would be doing. For no man wages war except in ignorance. . . ." What Adamski had been told—by another man in the ship—was this: " . . . if the issue is merely our lives as against the lives of our brothers—even those belligerent ones of your Earth—we would allow ourselves to be destroyed rather than to slay a

fellow being." This is a hard saying; yet, it should cause no surprise to a Christian.

The dilemma of the "silence group" can be understood. However, even on this earth, the gentleman is not at the mercy of the villain. The men and women of other planets, who are so far in advance of us, seem generally able to protect themselves; if we admit them to our counsels, we may be sure they will show us how to do so, too.

Our civilisation cannot stand still, nor can the past give us security. In his speech upon receiving an honorary degree at Harvard University, on September 6, 1943, Winston Churchill said: "The empires of the future are the empires of the mind." He has been right about so many things and if he is right in this, we can have hope; for in the realm of the mind it is clear that power is wisdom and intelligence.

Those empires will be greatest where information is free. It is sad that the *Sunday Times* correspondent (September 23) could write concerning the seventh International Astronautical Congress: ". . . the biggest disappointment was that the world's leading interplanetary experts were not free to exchange information openly about their present work. 'They came to Rome, their lips sealed by their own governments' national security regulations,' said one delegate. 'Unable to talk about the unbelievable progress they are making in their current experiments, it is understandable that they took to looking towards the very distant future'."

In 1957 the President of the United States may announce the presence and purpose of visitors from other planets. If (because of the "silence group") this does not happen, I trust that the Queen will do so—alone and with courage.

UNANSWERED QUESTIONS

No. 3 . . . Has Earth's Axis Tilted Many Times?

THE FOLLOWING paragraphs are from an article by Hugh Auchincloss Brown, E.E., and are reproduced from the October issue of *Clips, Quotes and Comments.**

"The Antarctic Ice Cap is the divinely appointed executioner of our civilisation. It is a creeping menace. The continuous fall of non-melting snow and hoar frost changes to deep-freeze, cold storage glacial ice and the Ice Cap grows larger and heavier continuously.

"The globe wobbles, forcing the Ice Cap's centre, and the earth's Axis of Figure, to wander off-centre from the earth's Axis of Spin. Its rotation creates a throw of eccentric centrifugal force in the off-centre Polar Ice Cap, which must eventually cause the earth to tip over, like an overloaded canoe towed behind a power boat in a circle.

"A destructive eccentric centrifugal force, or side throw, will be created by the weight of the Ice Cap and the speed of its rotation, when the off-centre distance of its centre of gyration becomes one inch too great—a cotangent function of $E = \frac{1}{2} MV^2$ where M equals mass, V velocity and E is the energy developed. Cataclysmic destruction occurs when this force overcomes the cohesion of the weakest restraining land layers of the earth's top strata.

"The estimated yearly snowfall on all of Antarctica is equivalent to about 18 inches of rainfall, and amounts to about 7 trillion tons per year, or about 20 billion tons per average day of the year. This is reduced to about 6 billion tons per day when guesses are made for ablation—principally the annual flow-off of icebergs.

"The growth of the Ice Cap may be controllable by the will of man to survive on earth. The wobble of the globe is not under man's control.

(*Continued on page* 30)

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WORLD'S FIRST FLYING SAUCER EXHIBITION

by DESMOND LESLIE

ALL PRAISE to both Miss Ann Grevler and Mr. Charles Laubscher, General Secretary of the Witwatersrand Agricultural Show, for daring to stage a most spectacular Flying Saucer Exhibition at the Johannesburg Spring Show in October.

I arrived, I must confess, expecting to find a tent containing a few saucer pictures surrounded by prize Aberdeen Angus and disgruntled farmers. Instead, I found that Milner Park Showgrounds are something of a cross between the Dublin Horse Show and the British Industries Fair, covering, I believe, over 100 acres.

Next to the Chamber of Mines, in an enormous and stately pavilion, were the space exhibits. I entered a dramatically darkened hall to be confronted by a 100-ft. world map, on which tiny red lights flashed to mark the site of every known landing by spacecraft. Overhead, a stream of saucers guided me into a colossal hall dominated by a giant 30-ft. long illuminated mother ship discharging scale saucers.

A huge cutaway of Cramp's sectional view of the interior of a saucer took pride of place on the end wall. The other exhibits were progressively instructive, starting with models of the solar system and the galaxies; the concept of an intelligently inhabited universe, and then historic evidence from prehistoric and Biblical times to this present day. Huge models, some of them moving, all cleverly lit, swung overhead. Suddenly, a voice boomed out, "Stand where you are," and the viewers were treated to a 10-minute, very dramatic reconstruction of the Mantell case.

Beyond the Saucer Halls were interesting exhibits by the local Interplanetary and Scientific Societies. The latter, I fear, could more easily be explained by Dr. Freud than by Dr. Menzel.

In another hall, reminiscent of Waterloo Station, I strove to earn the cost of my import by lecturing twice daily to an aggregate of several thousand people. They showed great interest and asked good questions. Some of our "Question Times" turned into highly constructive debates, ending in four scientists forming a group to analyse, study and reproduce the saucer methods of propulsion. One of these scientists, at least, came as a sceptic, but ended by making some remarkable discoveries of his own. Another assured me that "massless weightless matter" could be produced, and he had already made some heartening experiments towards its realisation. As I left Johannesburg, a serious scientific group had formed with the intention to produce at least a working model saucer.

The local Menzels, of course, had their say—illusions, balloons and spots before the eyes. But then, they were new to the subject and allowances must be made.

Altogether, this first saucer exhibition in the world was an over-riding success. About 15,000 visitors had been expected. 160,000 were checked at the turnstiles. I gather Mr. Laubscher is contemplating something even more dramatic on saucer lines, if he can find the capital and the workers. He should have no trouble in so doing. I, for one, wish him every success.

Author Desmond Leslie and astronomer Patrick Moore were the chief protagonists in an entertaining battle over u.f.o.s on B.B.C. TV on December 4. Our reporter, John Pitt, was at Lime Grove studios that evening. He said that Leslie was very much at his ease, and did a great deal to feed his side. Lord Dowding spoke well in favour of the saucer cause. Patrick Moore was alternatively bland, sarcastic and iconclastic. His aides supported him in a minor key. It was disappointing to hear a résumé of much the same old Menzalian material that has characterised so many "scientific" rationales of the u.f.o. subject. All the same, concluded John Pitt, this was the best saucer programme yet. It was produced by Paul Johnstone.

CURRENT STATUS
OF
THE UFO FIELD IN AMERICA

by

M. K. JESSUP

THE FIELD of u.f.o. activity has gone through some interesting changes during the past several years. After the years of initial hysteria subsequent to Arnold's reports and the equally vivid ones that preceded his, there was a decline in interest for at least two or three years—say approximately through 1953-4-5. During this time of doldrums, sightings decreased after the Mars opposition of 1954, and the silence of the Press and Government created the false impression that saucers were fancy already past.

Close followers of the u.f.o. will have noted, however, that the decline in number of sightings was more apparent than real. There were still a large number of valid sightings, but the illusory or halucination type was not being reported as glibly as before. It has been severally stated that military and civil airline pilots are still turning in reports quite frequently. It is now common knowledge that sightings have picked up tremendously during October, 1956, after their absence during the summer. The confident predictions of Lonzo Dove (Broadway, Virginia) and others that there would be an upsurge of sightings concomitant with the 1956 opposition of Mars has been beautifully vindicated.

Of even more basic interest, however, is a trend in the interest of the public. The problem of u.f.o.s and their collateral phenomena has taken root in America, in spite of the so-called "silence group," and the astonishing lack of news from abroad. There has been a steady decline in the "fringe" or "crackpot" element in Saucerdom, beginning, I would say, about 1953-1954. In my current lectures, I find this group conspicuously absent, I am happy to affirm.

Explorer and instructor in Astronomy and Mathematics at the University of Michigan and Drake University, M. K. Jessup completed his Thesis for the Doctorate in Astrophysics at the University of Michigan. He erected and operated the largest refracting telescope in the Southern Hemisphere in South Africa, for the University of Michigan. His research resulted in several thousand discoveries of physical double-stars which are now catalogued in the Memoirs of the Royal Astronomical Society in London.

Mr. Jessup has carried out research at the Maya and Inca ruins in Central America and Peru. He is an acknowledged expert on the megalithic stoneworks of Peru, Easter Island, Syria and the Orient.

He has devoted much time to the study of U.F.O.s and is the author of several well-known books on the subject, notably, "The Case For the U.F.O.," "The U.F.O. Annual," and "U.F.O. And The Bible." His new book, "The Expanding Case For The U.F.O." is due to be published in January.

On the other hand, there is a steady, although moderate, resurgence of interest among serious, mature people in almost all walks of life. This has been what we, in America, call a "grass-roots movement." It has taken place very quietly and with no fanfare at all. Peculiarly enough, this renewal, or continuation, of interest and serious thought has found a majority of its supporters among religious groups.

The current prevalence of religious overtones to the field of u.f.o. is unmistakable. It is more prominent among students of the occult than among spiritualists or spiritists. However, its greatest strength is among the smaller, religious groups whose thinking is independent of the larger, more orthodox churches. These independent churches exist in large numbers, and their clergy and laity are both made up of free thinkers who have not been satisfied with the standardised mental pap ladled

out by pompous orthodoxy. These sincere groups have retained the Christian Bible as a guiding book, but only with some difficulty in reconciling it with their reason. This difficulty has arisen from their inability to develop logical interpretations of the Good Book, for all churches have been handicapped by erroneous dogma which has become traditional.

It is gratifying, therefore, to note an instant response to Biblical interpretations based on an acceptance of life and intelligence in the space around the Earth and Moon. There is a strong air of relief in the many such statements as: "I am so thankful to have a logical meaning for the Bible, which I can reasonably accept." The Holy Bible will, then, continue to be a sacred Book, but is being increasingly recognised as a literal (albeit sometimes inaccurate) historical record of fact. It is being stripped of mysticism and permitted to shine forth in its pristine warmth and truth. The beauty of its record of "Extra-terrestrial Intervention" is verily awe inspiring.

There are thousands of references and allusions to u.f.o. activity in the Bible; and it is without doubt the greatest reference book on Ufology, the science of the u.f.o.

This Biblical support is coming to light at a very opportune time, when it does seem that Ufology has been needing more ammunition with which to develop its case. Sightings are tuppence ha'penny a baker's dozen, and are either accepted without question by the enlightened, or rejected without consideration by the smugly regimented multitudes. There is no longer much of an element of proof in sightings, which are merely accumulating for the records and for possible future analysis; and the trend is toward a reappraisal of actual saucer contacts such as reported by Fry, Adamski, Van Tassel, *et al.*

There is a strong undercurrent of belief that events are being directed, or at least influenced, by spatial intelligence. This direction takes the form of revelation and inspiration to certain key workers who are thought of as being readied for a long and intense task of education, if not actually an emergency task of both physical and spiritual salvation. Concomitant with this, it is felt by many, the facts of life regarding u.f.o. are gradually being brought to light in accordance with plans originating in space. The current explanations of Biblical history in terms of Ufology are thought to be a timely part of this plan. Such views as these are, of course, too advanced for common acceptance, but they are firmly rooted in a very serious minority.

Saucer clubs are forming at a greater rate than ever, and are usually called study or research groups. There is little of fanfare about them, and it is even difficult to discover all of them for the purposes of creating a National U.F.O. Directory. There is a definite tendency for these study groups to consist of mature people, and the bug-eyed teen-agers are not so active as before. The science-fiction groups, following in the unguided rocket-wake of Arthur C. Clark, are antagonistic to Ufology, which has pulled the rug from under their shimmering house of cards by the simple process of making reality of their fiction, alas.

Government silence still prevails, despite efforts of such stalwarts as Keyhoe. There is a rumour current among Press reporters in Washington (November, 1956) that the Government is about to launch a movement to squelch and eliminate Ufology completely. This is somewhat offset by the creation of at least one civilian research organisation, still in the formative stage, which has been formally incorporated to work at professional levels.

There is a definite feeling that the Government knows more than it is willing to tell about u.f.o.s, but that even the Government does not have all of the answers. A small minority believes that the Government does in fact have the answers obtained from captured or landed saucers, but no tangible proof has ever been made public. As for the Government's reasons for its reticence, the fear of panic seems to be the one most usually accepted, but nobody has ever indicated what form a panic could take from the mere announcement that u.f.o.s do exist. The panic, if any, is in the Pentagon itself.

There is everywhere an air of suspense and expectancy. Sensitive people "feel" that great events are coming—that in fact they are already beginning to make themselves known. Many are convinced that the Biblical "days of the end" are already here, and that u.f.o.s are to play a major role in tremendous changes which will come within the lifetimes of a large portion of the people living today. There are some subtle trends which indicate that the highlands of Mexico may have an unexpected significance in the final break-through.

THE PHENOMENA OF ANGEL HAIR

by

Charles A. Maney

ONE approach to the study of u.f.o.s which holds some promise of significant attainable knowledge of the character of these objects is the analysis of the nature of the so-called angel hair. In numerous instances the fall of large quantities of this fibrous material has been noted in connection with the observation of disc-shaped and cigar-shaped u.f.o.s. There appears to be sufficient evidence to prove to a reasonable-minded person the reality of these falls of material from the sky and the close association of these falls with the observation of u.f.o.s. To give a complete account of all the interesting details associated with the many different reports would require a good-sized source book. Such a compilation would indeed be a valuable reference work and should be prepared by some agency in the interests of scientific knowledge.

From the standpoint of a preliminary study, however, it might be worth while to make an attempt to investigate those features of the character of angel hair which are most commonly noted. These are (1) the simultaneous sightings of u.f.o.s in connection with the fall of angel hair from the sky and (2) the unstable character of the material as evidenced by its rapid disintegration soon after the fall.

The accompanying table, with dates of sightings, localities, and notes, comprises such a study in brief. The material of the table with the notes includes a record of sightings involving angel hair for the period from October, 1952, to October, 1955. The table is not to be considered a complete record of such happenings, but probably does include those which are at least the best known of such events. The reference notes in every case represent quotations from newspaper reports, magazine articles, books, and personal letters describing the events. In three cases, those of Auckland, New Zealand, Melbourne, Australia, and Horseheads, New York, no u.f.o.s were reported as seen. However, in these three

The Table of Angel Hair Incidents

Date of Sighting	Locality	Note References	
		Associated with u.f.o.s	Rapid disintegration
October 17, 1952	Oloron, France	1	a
October 27, 1952	Gaillac, France	2	b
April 15, 1953	Auckland, New Zealand		c
May 30, 1953	Palmerston North, New Zealand	3	
October 9, 1953	Melbourne, Australia		d
October 13, 1953	Pleasant Hill, California	4	
November 16, 1953	San Fernando Valley, California	5	e
February 1, 1954	San Fernando Valley, California	6	f
February 1, 1954	Puente, California	7	g
October 22, 1954	Jerome School, Marysville, Ohio	8	h
October 28, 1954	Rome, Italy	9	
November 8, 1954	Florence, Italy	10	
November —, 1954	Tucson, Arizona	11	
November —, 1954	Kankakee, Illinois	12	
February 21, 1955	Horseheads, New York		i
October 2, 1955	Uhrichsville, Ohio	13	
October 27, 1955	Whitsett, North Carolina	14	

instances the fibrous materials which fell from the sky appeared to have the peculiar property of angel hair most commonly noted, namely its tendency to rapid disintegration. Among the fourteen instances where angel hair was associated with u.f.o.s there were six occasions where the rapidly-disintegrating character of angel hair was noted.

It should be pointed out as a significant fact that the author has personal letters from two school teachers and six school children as witnesses in the Jerome case, two letters from school teachers in connection with the Whitsett case, and one letter from a lady observer of the Uhrichsville incident. The author regards all of these testimonies as absolutely true statements and correctly descriptive of the phenomena which took place. No doubt additional testimonies in large numbers could be secured for most of these events, were one to take the time and make the effort to go about such an undertaking.

Notes on the Table

Angel Hair associated with u.f.o.s :

1. " A cigar-shaped object—dropping a great quantity of fibres in its wake."
2. " The spectacle lasted for about twenty minutes before the cigar and its saucers disappeared over the horizon. By this time masses of white threads were beginning to fall—just as at Oloron. They continued to fall for a long time after the disappearance of the objects."
3. " Saw a small bright blue object—with an irregular motion quite unlike that of an aircraft. Later saw large number of filaments of a substance resembling spider webs, white in colour and ashy in texture, floating down to earth."
4. " Four round objects glistening in the sun threw off some kind of whitish substance—a white silky strip about twelve feet long settled on a tree."
5. " We saw a huge silvery ball—a long streamer of white stuff almost like a vapour trail—spewed out its back end—it drooped down all over the neighbourhood like cobwebs."
6. " The ball was about three times the size of a full moon—suddenly a stream of white lacy substance flowed from the ball."
7. " After ten or fifteen seconds, the object turned reddish. Then it emitted some shining cobweb-like substance which began to drift to earth."
8. " The cigar-shaped object was hanging motionless—then it took off quite rapidly. In its wake was a trail of webs that later were strung from one side to the other of wires along the road all the all the way to the Columbus road."
9. " These objects dropped white cottony stuff that hung from telephone wires."
10. " 15,000 spectators at a football match watched a flight of saucers which dropped candy-floss type streamers."
11. " A bright object was sighted, then disappeared. Then we saw round objects drifting downward. One became entangled in a TV antenna and floated in the air as a streamer. Later hundreds of smaller streamers—catching on trees and branches."
12. " After a flying saucer had passed over Kankakee, Illinois, angel hair was collected." (A photo of this angel hair was printed in the January 31, 1955, issue of the *Chicago American*.)
13. " Several disc-shaped objects bunched at high altitude. Almost immediately after the saucers disappeared, the air became filled with silver cobwebs."
14. About ten saucers were sighted: " The angel hair started falling about the same time the saucers were sighted."

Rapid disintegration of Angel Hair :

a. " When rolled up into a ball, they rapidly became gelatinous, then sublimed in the air and disappeared."
b. " Became gelatinous, then sublimed and disappeared."
c. " Quickly disintegrated when handled."
d. " On handling, rapidly disintegrated until no trace was left."
e. " Held between the fingers, it dissolves into nothing."
f. " When I picked it up in my hands, it disappeared."
g. " It vanished when I tried to touch it with my hands."
h. " The part we held between our fingers very quickly seemed to just go to nothing."

i. After two days the " web was rapidly disintegrating and disappearing."

Special Properties Noted :

At Oloron, France : " These fibres resembled wool or nylon. When rolled into a ball, they rapidly became gelatinous, then sublimed in the air and disappeared. The fibres burned like cellophane when ignited."

At Jerome School : " We handled this material; it was very fine and soft to touch. It did not stick to our hands, but when we held two ends and pulled, it stretched without tearing. Where it stretched it had a shiny appearance. The part we held between our fingers very quickly seemed to just go to nothing. However, we could roll it between our fingers into a very, very tiny ball. In a short time our hands had a green stain on them. I soon washed my hands in warm water and the stain rinsed quickly off. Mr. Warrick said he was leaving his on his hands to see what would happen—he later said his hands became clammy and finally the colour disappeared of its own accord."

In most of the incidents where there were falls of cobwebby substance from the sky, shiny disc or cigar-shaped bodies were observed, and the substance appeared to be dropped from these bodies. In the case of the cobwebby substance that fell over a half-mile square area near Horseheads, New York, the material was first discovered in the early morning of February 21, 1955. Since this material strongly resembled that observed in connection with shiny aerial objects in the fact of its having fallen from the sky, being fibrous in character, and having the property of rapidly disintegrating, it might be assumed to have been produced under similar circumstances. Granting this fairly reasonable assumption, it would seem that the results of a chemical analysis of the Horseheads fibre might throw some light on the nature of angel hair.

Since different attempts were made to analyse this material and the report of these attempts reached the Press it seems worth while to include a record of them here. The results of analysis by several different professional people are strangely contradictory. *It is a significant fact, however, that none of the scientists identified the material as the web of the ballooning spider.*

The following analyses are noted:

Dr. Francis A. Richmond, professor emeritus at Elmira College, described the material as " short, weak fibres that looked and felt like cotton or wool."

Dr. Charles B. Rutenber, professor of chemistry at Elmira College, declared that, based on chemical analysis, the material was "cotton, either waste or fibres, that had been in explosion and were heavily damaged." Tests with a geiger counter showed it to be radio-active. These findings were supported by Dr. Richmond and Mrs. Hans Bernt, assistant professor of art. Later, Dr. Rutenber suddenly reversed his decision; he said the material was a protein product created by the escape of a hot milk product at the local milk plant.

Mr. John B. Diffenderfer, manager of the chemistry section of the local Westinghouse plant, held to the milk theory. The Westinghouse test showed thirty per cent. carbon with various metals present.

Mr. Louis R. Hermann and Mr. Robert L. Mix, chemical technicians at the Westinghouse plant, said that the material consisted of cotton and wool fibres with pieces of fine copper wire mixed in.

Assumptions might also be made as to the origin of angel hair. Aimé Michel, in his book *The Truth About Flying Saucers,* calls attention to the Plantier theory on this point in the following words: ". . . as Plantier thinks, the 'angel's hair' results from the alteration of the chemical properties of atoms and molecules of the air, effected by the ultra-heavy particles projected by the field . . ." (of the u.f.o.). Alongside of this reference the following fact might be noted: It was definitely established by Dr. Willard F. Libby, of the University of Chicago, in 1947 that Carbon 14, known as radio-active carbon, is produced by cosmic rays in the atmosphere from atoms of nitrogen. The fibrous material, cotton, is nearly pure cellulose and contains atoms of carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen. Conceivably angel hair could be forms of what chemists call a chain polymer of cellulose, containing radioactive Carbon 14 combined with the hydrogen and oxygen from moisture in the air, the three elements combining under the action of the ultraheavy particles referred to by Plantier.

But this is probably too much speculation. At any rate it would be very desirable to have the benefit of detailed scientific tests of the real angel hair definitely observed to have been associated with u.f.o.s. When this is once accomplished, a

(*Continued on page* 31)

From an Astronomer's Notebook

by W. Schroeder

January

1	New Moon.
3	Moon in Apogee.
8	Moon: First Quarter.
	Algol Minimum, 5 a.m.
	Moon nears Mars.
10	Mercury in Inferior Conjunction.
11	Algol Minimum, 2 a.m.
13	Algol Minimum, 11 p.m.
16	Full Moon.
	Algol Minimum, 8 p.m.
17	Moon in Perigree.
	Geminid Meteors.
19	Algol Minimum, 5 p.m.
20	Moon near Jupiter.
23	Moon: Last Quarter.
26	Moon near Saturn.
29	Moon near Mercury and Venus.
30	New Moon.
31	Algol Minimum, 4 a.m.
	Moon in Apogee.

February

1	Mercury in Western Elongation.
3	Algol Minimum, 1 a.m.
5	Moon near Mars.
	Algol Minimum, 10 p.m.
5-10	Aurigid Meteors.
7	Moon: First Quarter.
8	Algol Minimum, 6 p.m.
14	Full Moon.
	Moon in Perigee.
16	Moon near Jupiter.
20	Algol Minimum, 6 a.m.
22	Moon: Last Quarter.
23	Moon near Saturn.
	Algol Minimum, 3 a.m.
25	Algol Minimum, 11 p.m.
27	Moon in Apogee.
28	Algol Minimum, 8 p.m.

Sun, Moon and Planets

During the first part of the year the sun travels towards more northerly parts of the ecliptic, and the length of the days increases correspondingly from 7 hours 40 minutes on January 1 to 8 hours 45 minutes on January 31, and to 10 hours 15 minutes on February 28.

The Moon always presents an interesting aspect when near a particularly bright star or planet, and such times are given in our diary. There, we also find the times when the Moon is in Perigee and Apogee, that is those points of her orbit which are respectively nearest to and farthest from the earth. It so happens that the Full Moons in January and February fall near the times when the Moon is in Perigee, and an observant star gazer will quite easily notice the apparent difference in the size of the Moon. The Full Moon, when in Perigee, is about one-fifth larger than the Full Moon in Apogee.

The narrow crescent of the waning Moon will help us to locate Mercury on January 29, when this planet will put in one of its fleeting appearances. Venus is also nearby, but as the sky will be fairly bright by the time the planets become visible above the horizon, it may not be very easy to locate them.

Jupiter and Saturn are also morning stars, situated in the constellations Virgo and Scorpio. Both are gradually increasing in brightness, indicating their approach to opposition later in the year.

The only planet visible in the evening sky is Mars, now in the constellation Pisces. Although it has lost much of its brightness since last September, it still is a conspicuous object in the field

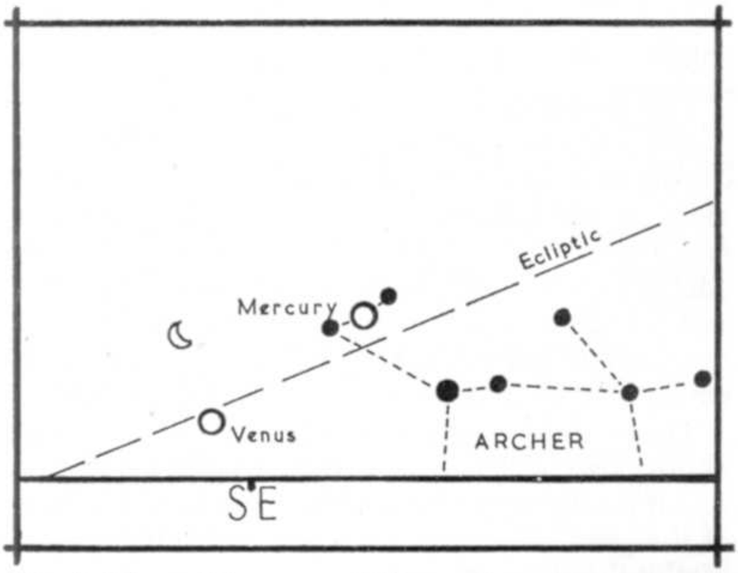

Fig. 1. Moon, Mercury and Venus above the horizon in the south-east at 7.30 a.m. on January 29, 1957.

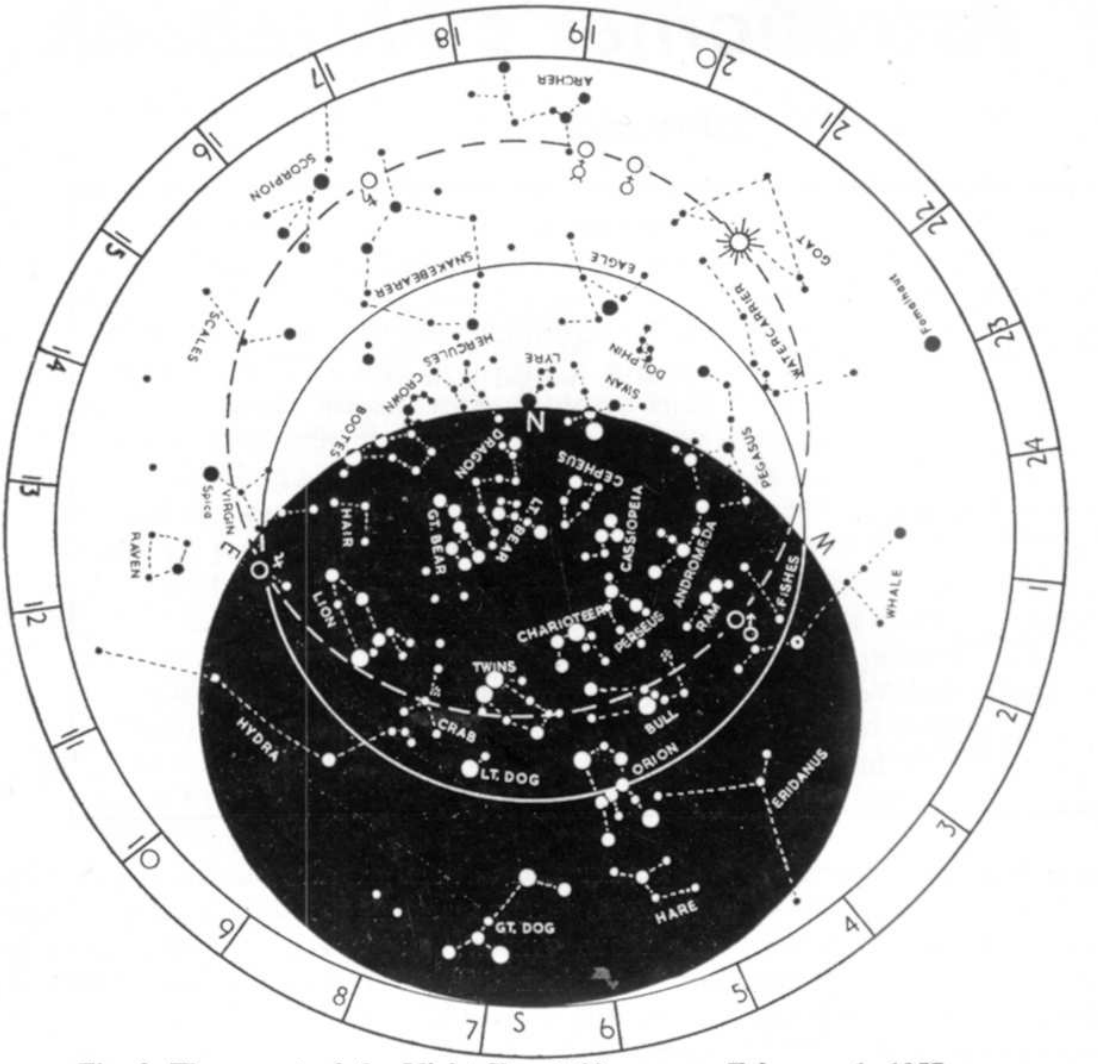

Fig. 2. The aspect of the Night Sky at 10 p.m. on February 1, 1957.

Many of the fainter stars are situated in interesting positions. Almost overhead is Capella, and from this star, a row of others, belonging to Perseus and Andromeda, seem to hang down, pointing to the western horizon, like a string of beads.

In the east, the Lion has just risen above the horizon, and a little towards the left of it is the quaint Asterism called Berenice's Hair. On a clear, moonless night, its hundreds of faint little stars really do appear like the shimmer coming from the locks of a beautiful Egyptian queen, who lived 2,000 years ago.

of faint stars found in this part of the sky. Mars gradually approaches the Sun, but even at the end of February it sets more than four hours after sunset, and is easily observed.

The Fixed Stars

The constellations of the winter sky are very much more brilliant than the summer stars. It is during this time of the long nights, when the full glory of the heavens is shown. In the south we find Sirius, the brightest star of all in the northern part of the sky, which is visible from our latitude, and a little above it, and towards the west is the spectacular constellation Orion. Still higher up we find the Bull and the Twins with the Little Dog.

These few constellations provide us with almost half of all bright stars in the night sky, and it is only regrettable that the cold of this time of the year often drives star gazers to the comfort of the fireplace, in spite of the added interest of the winter stars.

Meteors

Two important showers occur during the period under review. Radiating from the constellation Gemini (Twins) on January 17 comes a shower of slow and trained meteors, while another shower from Auriga (Charioteer) produces very slow meteors between February 5 and 10. These latter often produce fireballs which explode in the upper atmosphere, and quite frequently it is possible to hear this several minutes after the explosion has been observed visually.

The Constellation of the Month

Orion is probably the finest constellation visible from our latitude. Two first magnitude stars and four of the second magnitude form a regular geometrical figure which is the most striking feature of the Winter night sky. No wonder it has been mentioned in astronomical writings from the earliest times, and it is even mentioned

in the Bible (in the book Job) and in Homer's Odyssey. But the Babylonian astronomers described it at least 2,000 years before then.

In Greek mythology, Orion was a famous hunter, and the story is told that he boasted that he feared no animal on earth. Juno, angered by his proud manner, determined that he should die a most humiliating death, and she sent a scorpion to sting his heel. Orion the giant was thus fatally wounded by the little creature. Diana, the Moon-goddess, who loved Orion, placed him in the heavens in a position which is almost exactly opposite the Scorpion.

The stars of Orion are not only brilliant but also display many interesting features. Alpha (α) is a supergiant, approximately 400 times the diameter of our Sun. Its name is Betelgeuze, given to it by the Arab astronomers of the Middle Ages. Betelgeuze is one of the pulsating stars, and it was discovered that its diameter alters periodically between the upper and lower limits of 400 million miles and 290 million miles. Together with this change, its brightness alters, too, but this is not easy to observe, as there are no stars in the vicinity which could be used for estimating its comparative brightness. The actual brightness of Betelgeuze is about 3,600 times that of our Sun, but its matter is so tenuous (density 0.0001 of air) that the star could almost be described as a red-hot nothing.

In the "head" of Orion we find Lambda (λ), which is a double star. The two components are of magnitudes 3.5 and 5.6, rather more than 4″ distant from each other. Binoculars show both components and will also reveal many faint stars nearby which make an interesting surrounding for this double.

Delta (δ), the westernmost star in the "belt," is also double, magnitudes 2.0 and 6.8. The separation here is nearly 53″, so that even opera-glasses should suffice to make the fainter one visible. The main star of this double is pure white, while the companion is violet.

A multiple star with contrasting colours is (Sigma (σ), just below the easternmost star of the belt. Binoculars will show three stars, but small telescopes make it possible to see more than half a dozen.

Very similar in appearance is Theta (υ), in the middle of the "sword." Here it may just be possible to see four stars arranged in the shape of a trapezium. This particular region is, however, interesting for another reason. Theta is situated in the centre of the Great Nebula in Orion, which can be seen clearly with the naked eye when the observing conditions are favourable. The slightest optical aid will show some striking features of this nebula and will also reveal its distinct greenish colour. This nebula is mentioned as M 42 in Messier's catalogue.

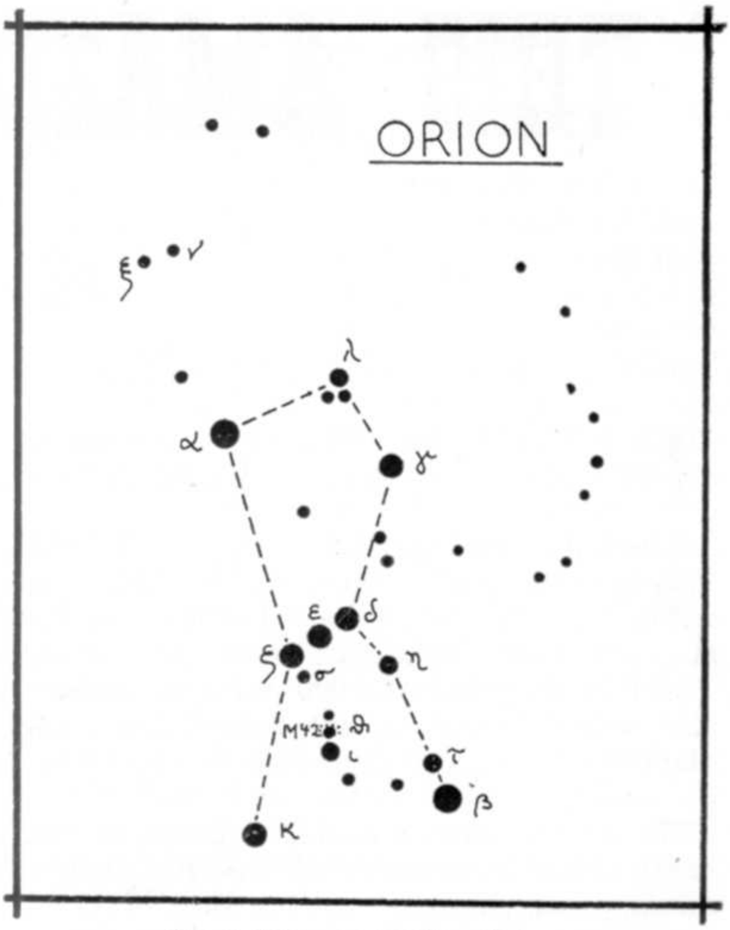

Fig. 3. The constellation Orion

Finally there is Beta (β), also called Rigel, Orion's left foot. Its fierce white light outshines all other stars in the vicinity, and although its diameter is only 35 times that of our Sun, its brightness is 21,000 times as great. Although Rigel should, theoretically, be visible as a double star with only small instruments—its companion of mag. 6.7 is at a distance of 9″—the brightness of the primary usually makes it impossible to see the faint star and a fairly large instrument is necessary to discover it.

That is Orion, possibly the most rewarding constellation in the heavens, and certainly the most spectacular one, not only for the man who makes astronomy his hobby, but also for the most casual observer.

THIS AMAZING UNIVERSE

by

Arthur Constance

Author of "The Inexplicable Sky"

"IN FIFTY YEARS from now mankind will have learned all there is to know about the universe."

I looked at the speaker in amazement. I said, "*Are you serious?*" "Of course," he said, "quite serious. In the last hundred years we have acquired more knowledge than our ancestors gained in the previous 5,000 years. We accumulate knowledge with increasing momentum. Maybe in less than 50 years there will be no more to know."

He was no ignoramus, this believer in mankind's ability to assimilate all the facts about all things during the next half century. A Unesco handbook published by the Stationery Office a couple of months ago tells us that two out of every five people in the world today, over the age of 15, are unable to read or write—nearly half the world's population. My friend was one of the literates. He was, in fact, a personage in the B.B.C., and the occasion was the discussion of a script I had written for broadcasting, in which I referred to Man's ignorance. I had to cut out the reference. Nothing that I said affected my friend's sincerely-held belief that Man, with a very large capital "M," would soon know everything.

Ocean of Truth

"I do not know what I may appear to the world," said Sir Isaac Newton over two hundred years ago, "but to myself I seem to have been only a boy playing on the sea-shore, and diverting myself in now and then finding a smoother pebble or a prettier shell than ordinary, whilst the great ocean of truth lay all undiscovered before me."

Perhaps Newton was just that, a boy playing by the sea-shore, compared with an educated person in one of our twentieth-century public services. Perhaps our ability to send speech, music and pictures through space has brought us, not to the brink of knowledge, but to the edge of a cosmic mastery of it. All the knowledge of the past may be a few pretty shells on the beach. We have acquired (perhaps) the oceans—not merely the ideological and factual oceans of *this* planet, but of *all* planets. Repeat, and underline heavily, *perhaps*.

Inhabited Universe

After all, there are only a few thousands of millions of suns in each of the millions of millions of galaxies in the cosmos. We have no telescopes powerful enough to make even the nearest more than points of light—we cannot give any of them diameters—so that it seems improbable, to say the least of it, that we shall have telescopes big enough (even in fifty years' time) to see any planets that any of them may have—and millions upon millions of them may have inhabited planets, if we take only a conservative estimate.

Cicero said, "I am not ashamed to confess that I am ignorant of what I do not know"—but, of course, he was one of the ignoramuses in that 5,000 years' period, before Modern Man pulled up his scientific socks and started making great strides in all directions—mainly backwards and sideways, but, of course, always forwards.

Statements and data regarding sky phenomena, aeronautical research, aviation, space travel, the u.f.o.s and so on, may be classified under two headings: Beings and bodies that move *outwards* from our earth, and those that move *towards* it. In the latter class (which includes the u.f.o.s) most of the statements and data refer to *happenings*. In the former class, which includes subjects like man-made rockets and satellites, there are vastly more statements which are purely imaginative, fictional or speculative.

To clarify our minds we will use the word *centrifugal* (meaning "flying or tending from a centre") to cover all man's adventures into, and explorations of, outer space; and *centripetal*

(meaning "tending towards a centre") to cover all phenomena regarding beings or bodies which come to this earth from the sky.

Centripetal phenomena has been going on from the dawn of human history. The world's libraries are full of facts regarding falls to the earth of meteorites, fireballs and u.f.o.s of every conceivable kind. *Centrifugal* phenomena was confined, for thousands of years, to man's kites and balloons—only in the last hundred years have we factual phenomena in any abundance, and none of it takes us very far into the atmosphere.

Until the last few years man's centrifugal experiments were entirely limited to (we can afford to be generous) *twenty miles* outwards into space. Despite all his inventions and discoveries, man himself is still earthbound: he cannot rise more than a few miles above its surface. We need to remember this as we read science-fiction, and the statements of scientists who claim to be "conquering space." And it must be appreciated that even when we have any number of basket-ball satellites circling the earth they will still be comparatively close to our world even though they circle at the limit of our atmosphere.

Earthbound

The moon is 240,000 miles away in outer space —no man-made satellite exists which can travel outwards *one five-hundredths of that distance*. As for Mars, and rockets or devices of any description calculated to take humans across the vast abyss which stretches between this world and that planet, *nothing that has been made by humans (aircraft, rockets or any other devices) could possibly take a living human being even one-millionth of the appalling distance that separates Mars from our world*. Those devices which are being used to "condition" space-pilots to endure flights into the upper atmosphere are designed to reproduce, artificially, the conditions which may affect human beings *only a few miles from the earth's surface*—only a fraction of the distance outwards, and still well within the earth's atmosphere—and no pilot who takes part in any such experiment can endure the conditions for more than a few minutes. *If we confine ourselves to the facts, man is still earthbound.*

But the majority of people who have any knowledge of centrifugal phenomena do not confine themselves to facts—they mix them with science-fiction and the speculative pronouncements of world scientists: pronouncements which are often quite unjustifiable.

Gullibility

When we realise how sceptical the majority of folk are regarding statements concerned with centripetal phenomena, *although most of it is concerned with actual happenings*, it is a matter for amazement that the same people should be so credulous and gullible regarding centrifugal statements—they will believe almost anything, however speculative, if it refers to someone or something travelling *outwards* from our world.

Frozen pilots, for instance.

Dr. George Gamow is a distinguished physicist, well known for his researches in nuclear physics and its applications to stellar evolution. The *Miami Herald* of October 21, 1956, quotes him as saying that "it may be necessary to freeze space-pilots so that their conscious lives would be suspended during long trips." I am not saying that Dr. Gamow made that fantastic statement: I am simply giving you a news cutting which says that he said it. The *Miami Herald* continues:

> He told the San Diego chapter of the American Rocket Society that it would take 10 years at the speed of light for a spaceship to reach the nearest star. A frozen pilot would have no feeling of the length of time. He would be thawed out by instruments before arrival. Gamow said such freezing could be possible, perhaps in not too many years.

Dr. Gamow may or may not have made this statement about frozen pilots. He certainly could not have said that the nearest star is ten light years away, for any popular book on astronomy can tell us that the nearest star is *Alpha Centauri*, the light from which (travelling at 186,300 miles a second—if light does indeed travel) takes 4½ years (and not 10) to reach us. But the accuracy of the news item does not matter. What *does* matter is the fact that it is typical of thousands of news items regarding space travel which are accepted by vast numbers of readers of popular newspapers and magazines, although they have no factual basis, and the quite obviously pure speculations or imaginative exaggerations.

The plain truth is that the statement attributed to Gamow is highly imaginative and quite unscientific. The word "frozen" is a journalistic exaggeration. The temperature of the human body may be lowered a few degrees—certainly

to nowhere near freezing point—under hospital conditions. Spacecraft, presumably automatically controlled, containing unconscious pilots, travelling at 186,300 miles a second, are not a practical proposition but an imaginative "prediction" as wildly sensational and ridiculous as any of the insect-like Martians of cheap science-fiction. Yet numbers of people who read that news item in the *Miami Herald* believed that such space flight, with frozen pilots, was an actual possibility.

Pride

Credulous believers in centrifugal phenomena, however ridiculous, instantly become cavilling sceptics if presented with centripetal *facts* (not fictional fantasies or pseudo-scientific speculations) although such facts may be substantiated by scores of unimpeachable witnesses.

Why are the majority of humans so gullible regarding beings and bodies moving *outward* from our world, and so incredulous and difficult to convince regarding beings and bodies moving *inward*, towards us?

The root cause of that prejudice against centripetal statements which is so frequently associated with credulousness regarding centrifugal ones is the spirit of pride which spread through the world of science as a result of the scientific discoveries and achievements of the latter half of the nineteenth century. Religion was discredited, Science (with a capital S) was glorified. Man was pictured as the conqueror of the world. Numerous books and periodicals were invaded by symbolic illustrations which pictured man as a giant, standing proudly on a terrestrial globe with his hands stretched out to the stars.

Today, after nearly a century of such "superman" bunkum (and despite the tragic evidence in our newspapers that man has not yet learned to govern himself, much less this speck of a planet that he inhabits, while his knowledge of the Cosmos is actually as microscopic as that of any microbe's knowledge of a human being, as it moves in a bloodstream)—today, pride in our human achievements still dominates world literature and world journalism. Little children are spoon-fed with pride in the human race, from infancy to adolescence. Millions of popular periodicals for juveniles are so completely different from Victorian publications for children (which stressed the need of humility, and stimulated belief in God and a sense of reverent wonderment for His works in the heavens and in all Nature) that they extol man as the Lord of the Universe, suggesting that he has conquered the world's land surfaces, the seas of the world, the air, and will soon be the Creator of life itself.

It is quite beside the point that the Victorians were narrow-minded. It is quite irrelevant that most of the Victorian publications for children were (from our viewpoint) stodgy and preachy. Nor has material progress anything to do with it. The Victorians had no refrigerators, cinemas, television sets, aircraft, and so on. But it is not difficult to visualise an England—or a world—with the reverence and humility of Victorian England, governed by statesmen with firm belief in God and spiritual values (as indeed there are some statesmen of this type in our world today) yet possessing all the advantages of material progress.

Hypocrisy

It is no argument that humility and reverence, in Victorian times, were often façàdes of the human spirit and masks for hypocrisy.

The existence of counterfeit pound notes is no evidence that real ones do not exist.

This widespread spirit of pride in our achievements as a human race (which conveniently ignores the desperate brutality and viciousness of man, although his black side is as real as his white, in his dual nature) is the root cause of our reluctance, as a race, to accept centripetal facts, and our disposition to believe all statements, however ridiculous, fictional, or speculative, which suggest that Man's Destiny (capital "M" and "D") is centrifugal.

It is quite useless to point out that most of the world's surface is water, and that all man's sea-explorations have only taken him down into the upper surface of the sea, even as his air-explorations have only taken him upwards a few miles from the surface of the earth. Man will not admit that his main activities, and by far the biggest percentage of his knowledge is confined to this bubble's skin: a few miles up and a few miles down.

I coined the word "spiderism" in an earlier article, and it is so appropriate that I direct your thoughts once again to the symbolism. Man is indeed no more than a spider in his relations with the all-knowledge of the cosmos. The surface of his world is his web—and a web, indeed, it is, with the corpses of millions upon millions of

humans who have died dreadful deaths entangled in its diplomatic and historical threads.

Man—the vicious spider, the skilled craftsman with dim visions of symmetrical beauty—vaguely realises that he is surrounded by unknown fields of knowledge. His conceptions of the millions of suns which surround him in space might be compared with a spider's impressions of the fences, walls, houses, gardens, stretching outwards from its web. It resents any centripetal knowledge. It stubbornly refuses to believe that there is any creature greater or more knowledgable than itself. It is self-assured in its skill in web-making, even as we humans glory in our diplomacies. It is self-confident in its ability to paralyse its helpless victims by swift surgical operations, even as we are proud of our own achievements in surgical science.

Self Inflicted

But let it be noted that most of our knowledge of the human body is applied in war activity, over the centuries: *we as a race are busily engaged in healing the wounds we inflict upon ourselves.*

Even if we dismiss the vast amount of medical and surgical knowledge absorbed in war activity, we have to confess that the rest of it (cancer research and amelioration, and disease study and cure of all kinds) is no credit to us from a larger viewpoint: for *we are, in this state of civilisation, causing the diseases (incessantly and without repentance) which we are seeking to cure.* We pour out smoke from our factories and houses and it pollutes the air around the very hospitals where doctors and nurses are fighting lung diseases—and so with all man's ailments.

We are hypocritical in our judgment of a spider that paralyses its victims before sucking their blood. We plan our hydrogen bomb attacks without making provision for any kind of merciful anaesthesia for the millions who will have the living flesh stripped from their bodies as the result of aerial attacks. Even before Hiroshima—before these deadlier bombs that have resulted from the two last World Wars—the humans who have killed humans, whether by bayonet or by bomb, by shot or by shell, in the tragic history of the world, have never given their victims relief from pain before maiming or destroying them. The spider is more human than Man, as it mercifully paralyses its victims.

But man is as blind as the spider, as self-absorbed as the spider, in his attitude to centripetal knowledge.

How utterly illogical it is, to believe that *we*, as mortal humans who have not yet learned how to live at peace with each other, after thousands of years of bloody history, will have attained (in another fifty years or even in another fifty millenniums) the fathomless secrets concealed in the stillness of the star-sprinkled heavens!

How crazily nonsensical it is, to believe that *we humans*—so pitiably ignorant, and so content with our ignorance; so pathetically susceptible to accident and disease, in that a scratch may kill us or a few drifting germs render us bedridden or crippled; so cruelly intolerant in our racialisms and personal relationships—how *mad* it is to dismiss the implications which spring from any conception of a cosmos containing millions of inhabited worlds, and fondly imagine *Man* to be the Lord of all life!

We arrogant humans—each of us born a helpless infant, less independent of its mother than many a fish-baby or horse-baby after birth, and living a shorter life than an elephant or a tortoise—have still to learn our desperate need of humility and reverence and simple faith in God.

The Supreme Humility

As we approach another Christmastime (which will be yet again no time of " peace on earth " and " goodwill to men," but rather one of idiotic bickerings and senseless cruelties, as men war with each other in a world richly stored with abundant blessings for all mankind) we might well reflect on the fact that the Creator of those myriads of suns which wheel in our December skies, and of the countless inhabited worlds which must surely attend them in their lightning-like journeys through the Eternal Void, came to the world nearly 2,000 years ago as no arrogant dictator or boastful lord proud of his achievements, but in the form of a child, in a common manger. That was surely the supreme instance of humility.

But it was more than that, for it revealed the essential secret of the ages—the way to all-knowledge and true wisdom.

This is the paradox: that Man, in his journey outward to the stars, must come down to earth, to a deeper realisation of his common humanity.

In this paradox—Man's need of humility and its dynamic, explosive power—we go down to go up.

PANORAMA spotlights space events

Nine-Man Board Named

THE LAST issue of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW stated in Panorama that nine big names were behind the newly-formed National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena in the U.S.A.

It has just been announced, according to the *New York Times* of November 4, that those elected to the Board of Governors were:

Dr. Charles A. Maney, Professor of Physics, Defiance, Ohio.

Rear-Admiral D. C. Fahrney (Retd.).

A. M. Sonnabend, President, Hotel Corporation of America, Boston.

Rev. Albert H. Haller, Robbins Memorial Congregational Church, Greenfield, Mass.

Brig.-General Thomas B. Catron (Retd.).

Frank Edwards, Radio-TV Commentator, Indianapolis.

Talbot T. Speer, Speer Foundation, Baltimore.

Rev. Leon C. Levan, New Jerusalem Christian Church, Pittsburgh.

Robert Emerson, Nuclear Physicist, Kaiser Aluminium Co., Baton Rouge, La.

Awards for Essays on Gravity

In 1957, the Trustees of The Gravity Research Foundation, New Boston, N.H., U.S.A., are offering five Awards for short essays for the purpose of stimulating thought and encouraging work on harnessing gravity. The stipulations follow:

(1) The Awards will be made by the Trustees on June 1, 1957, for the best 1,500-word essays on the possibilities of discovering (a) some partial insulator, reflector or absorber of gravity, or (b) some alloy, or other substance, the atoms of which can be agitated or rearranged by gravity to throw off heat, or (c) some other reasonable method of harnessing, controlling, or neutralising gravity.

(2) The First Award will be $1,000.00; the Second Award will be $300.00; the Third Award will be $200.00; the Fourth Award will be $150.00; the Fifth Award will be $100.00.

(3) Essays must be received at the Gravity Research Foundation, New Boston, N.H., U.S.A., before April 15, 1957. They will be accepted from anyone who is seriously interested in the application of gravity to practical uses for the benefit of humanity.

(4) All essays must be typewritten in English on paper 11 x 8½ inches, with two carbon copies.

(5) The decision of the Judges will be final and all essays and copies will become the property of the Foundation.

(6) Please write a title covering the area of thought expressed in your essay; and a summary paragraph of 100 words or less on a separate sheet.

(7) Please attach a separate sheet giving a short biographical sketch of yourself for use by the Press in case you earn an Award.

Mr. Waveney Girvan

Mr. Waveney Girvan, a director of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW and author of *Flying Saucers and Common Sense,* gave a stimulating, well-informed talk on u.f.o.s at The Old Meeting House, Ditchling, Sussex, England, on Wednesday, October 24.

There was ample evidence that flying saucers did exist, Mr. Girvan said, and he had reached the conclusion that they were piloted or controlled intelligently.

There had been tens of thousands of reports in the last hundred years. Every country in the world had reported seeing them and there had been reports of many landings.

Orthodox scientists tried to explain away something they could not explain, and people like the Astronomer-Royal, who had not seen these things, claimed that they did not exist; but if that argument was to be accepted, we might just as

well abolish the jury system, for direct evidence was always better than expert evidence.

Flying saucers were still being seen and had been photographed. Although the possibility of faking had to be admitted, one must not overlook the man who says, "I saw this, and here is a photograph."

There were now thousands of witnesses, including pilots with war and civilian service, and a film would soon be shown in London of objects flying in formation on two different occasions. This could not have been faked.

[This film, *Unidentified Flying Objects*, has since been shown at the London Pavilion, London. It was reviewed in the May-June issue.—Ed.]

Mr. Girvan said flying saucers had been seen over the White House and were tracked by radar.

Speaking of the secret weapon theory, he said that in 1946 it was thought that flying saucers were being made by Russia with the aid of German scientists; but he was convinced that they were inter-planetary. They were seen by all the combatants in the last war and described as "Foofighters." The Germans thought they were American or British, and the Americans thought they were Japanese!

Incredible speeds had been mentioned and it seemed these objects could overcome gravity, for they could remain stationary in the air. A few weeks ago, one was seen to remain stationary for several minutes during a 40-m.p.h. gale, and then fly off at a terrific speed.

Flying saucers were undoubtedly years ahead of anything we had on this planet.

Mr. Dutta's Two Broadcasts

Another director of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, Mr. Reginald Dutta, gave two convincing broadcasts on flying saucers from Radio Luxembourg, on November 17 and November 24.

In his first talk, Mr. Dutta said that those associated with FLYING SAUCER REVIEW believe in flying saucers because (1) some of them had actually seen these objects themselves and (2) FLYING SAUCER REVIEW received a large number of sighting reports a week from so many decent honest-to-God people, that there just was no reasonable room for doubt, in spite of the ridicule heaped upon the subject. Mr. Dutta then asked his listeners to consider just two cases:

(1) Fifty top Norwegian scientists in three aircraft were on an official Government mission, and were specially equipped to film an eclipse of the sun, when they *all* saw two saucers. The chief cameraman managed to take a short film.

Now films can, he said, with great skill and apparatus, be faked, but is it likely to be done while flying at 10,000 ft., on Government duty, and in company with the most important colleagues in the Norwegian scientific world!

(2) The United States Government set up an official investigating body—Project Blue Book—which reported in one case that a hovering flying saucer burnt the grass roots in a forest clearing *without* burning the grass blades. The samples were collected and handled only by the Government men. Their labortory found that heat induction of 300°F. was the only method known to earth man which could burn the grass roots without harming the grass blades. Heat induction needs cumbersome complicated electronic machinery; there was none in that desolate forest clearing and no way of introducing it in secret.

Mr. Dutta gave a more personal viewpoint in his second talk, which covered the motives of the space people in coming to this planet. He said that flying saucers had been coming here in increasing numbers since 1945, because they are worried about our nuclear explosions. These explosions are having two disastrous effects:

(1) By setting up magnetic polarisation the earth's poles are being tilted fractionally. The ice at the North Pole is melting and that at the South Pole is thickening—both facts have been verified by earth science. This tilt has set forces in motion

CHRISTMAS, NEW YEAR AND BIRTHDAY GIFTS

Do you consider the coming of the flying saucers of significance to Humanity? Where do they come from? How are they propelled? Why are they here? You probably have friends who would be interesting in reading about this amazing subject. Why not give them a year's subscription to "Flying Saucer Review"?

which are affecting the weather. "And, say what you like, I believe that the weather is changing!" said Mr. Dutta.

(2) The radio-activity set off both by the bombs *and equally* by the "peaceful" uses of atomic energy is harmful. In fact, two thousand of the leading scientists in the Western world, including several Nobel prizewinners, gathered together and announced that even at the present rate of radiation the whole human race could be poisoned in ten years. And, of course, added Mr. Dutta, there is always the danger that we can blow up the planet!

John Otto in Hollywood

Mr. John Otto spoke on "We have visitors from space" at the Trouper's Auditorium, 1625 North La Brea, Hollywood, under the auspices of Flying Saucers International, on Thursday, November 1, Friday, November 2, and Saturday, November 3.

Forty-one-year-old John Otto innovated what is sometimes termed "light beam" communication with the ultimate object of attempting contact with extra-terrestrial intelligences. Otto has attempted contact by radio via the two 50,000-watt, clear channel AM radio stations of WGN, Chicago, in 1954, and KFI, Los Angeles, in 1955.

Otto and his associates have developed a device based on the principle that infra-red light beams, or for that matter any ordinary beam of light, can be used to transmit and receive audible messages.

They state that a transmitter could be built consisting of a microphone and an audio-amplifier which varies the intensity of a light beam from an ordinary tungsten lamp.

The receiver consists of a photo-electric cell which picks up the variations in light and transforms them into sound through the ordinary amplifier.

"The so-called 'flying saucers' and some of the other radically-shaped aircraft," says Otto, "are believed to be mechanical vehicles piloted by observers from other inhabited worlds in our solar system and possibly beyond."

"Although conclusive evidence is lacking at this time," he goes on, "all of the evidence unveiled to date strongly indicates that u.f.o.s originate from several sources. These may include some of the planets within our solar system currently believed by many scientists to be uninhabitable."

"We all know," John Otto continues, "that the earth is on the threshold of space. This first initial step will be culminated with the launching of the first Project Vanguard multi-stage rocket from Patrick Air Force Base, Florida, some time during the forthcoming International Geophysical Year (from July, 1957, to December, 1958). The establishment of these orbital satellites will mean that our next step will be the conquest of space itself. This verging upon interplanetary travel by the to some degree malevolent "Earthlings" may be of vital importance to our possible neighbours in space. Thus our rocket engineering developments and technological advances of today," Otto believes, "may be the primary reasons for these epochal manifestations."

"It is therefore imperative that some type of friendly contact with our outer-spatial visitors be established. Initially, perhaps by electronic or mechanical communication devices. Once this link is made, the thereby newly-unveiled knowledge must be internationally revealed without censorship or reservation."

"Everyone should read and evaluate carefully everything that is printed or spoken on the subject of flying saucers," he declares. "The only thing that holds these phenomenal events from being known on a mass scale is the people themselves."

"When we on earth have eliminated 'war and greed,' then these phenomena will become so world-wide in scope that a new era will be ushered in—*and in our time*—which will bring on the greatest spiritual and scientific advance ever conceived by man."

Land on Mars For Sale

Any person with a vision for the future, our Japanese correspondent informs FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, will be able to buy vast tracts of land on Mars. Officials of the Japan Astronomical Society met on October 22 and decided to start accepting applications for the purchase of land on Mars as from November 1. A spokesman for the Society said that the land on the planet which they planned to sell is a dry lake as large as France. It is, he said "a very nice place to live because of its moderate climate." He explained that about 36,000 sq. ft. of land would be sold to each applicant for a price of 200 yen.

SELECTED BOOKS

UFO AND THE BIBLE, by M. K. Jessup. (The Citadel Press, New York, 126 pages, $2.50.)

This is an important book for two reasons. Firstly, Mr. Jessup reveals that many phenomena mentioned in the Bible are actually u.f.o.s or due to the intelligences behind the u.f.o. Secondly, Mr. Jessup shows the Bible in an entirely new light, using the u f.o. as the key. The whole of both the Old and the New Testaments take on an entirely new meaning, and, furthermore, a reconciliation is effected between the Bible and modern science.

Mr. Jessup devotes a considerable portion of the book to a verse-by-verse interpretation of the Gospel according to St. Mark, Chapter 13, in which a complete prophecy made by Christ 2,000 years ago is shown to be coming to pass in our own times, and this awe-inspiring statement also has u.f.o. significance.

The author has obviously carried out an enormous amount of valuable research in preparing the material for this timely book. It is extremely readable and is a book that it is very necessary to read for a fuller understanding of the implications behind u.f.o. visitations.

FLYING SAUCER NEWS BULLETINS. (Published periodically by The British Flying Saucer Bureau, 30, Melbourne Terrace, Newtown, Bristol, 2, England, 1s. each.)

The British Flying Saucer Bureau recently decided to cease publication of *The Flying Saucer News* as a quarterly magazine. It is good news, however, that the B.F.S.B. is to continue as a research organisation. FLYING SAUCER REVIEW has agreed to take over any outstanding subscriptions of *The Flying Saucer News,* and is very pleased to extend a welcome to these new readers.

Meanwhile, the B.F.S.B. is producing the *Flying Saucer News Bulletins,* with attractive glossy covers. These handy bulletins contain about eight pages of interesting sighting reports.

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Unanswered Questions

(*Continued from page* 12)

"Our own epoch of time has run about 7,800 years, which compared to the age of the earth is as a single tick of a 7-day clock, which ticks each second. The most authentic timescales of our epoch are the gorges of the Niagara and Mississippi Rivers. Both gorges indicate that our epoch of time has run less than 8,000 years.

"The earth is about 4½ billion years old, and during its slow creation has rolled around sideways about one million times, resulting in the formation of about a million separate strata, or layers of the earth, between core and surface. Each layer of the earth's growth corresponds to one epoch of time between the recurrent careens of the globe, according to the new theory of continuous creation through celestial radiant energy and by photo-synthesis.

"Admiral Richard E. Byrd, director of the United States Antarctic Programme, credits President Eisenhower with the impetus which has resulted in the present massive attacks on the secrets of Antarctica, now being undertaken by the U.S. Navy."

In further support of his case, Mr. Brown states that both plant and animal fossils have been found in Arctic regions. Frozen bodies of long-extinct mammoths were found early in this century in the tundras of Northern Siberia. The bodies were well preserved and sledge dogs ate of the flesh without harm. Gray Barker discusses Brown's theories in his book, *They Knew Too Much About Flying Saucers*, and points out that when they died these animals were eating food of a nature, found in their viscera, which proved they had lived among abundant vegetation in places where there had been none for 7,000 years! But the biggest puzzle was the nature of their deaths and the preservation of their bodies. Some of them had broken bones, indicating violent contusions just prior to death. Others appeared to have frozen to death while standing on their feet.

The evidence points, Brown believes, to a sudden reversal of positions between tropical and polar regions, accompanied by the great upheavals such a sudden change would involve.

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Wide Mental Vision

Sir,

This year I had the supreme good fortune to go to Canada for two wonderful months. When spending a few days in Toronto, I was invited to go and stay with some friends whose home is on the shores of Lake Ontario on the American side, in New York State and this enabled me to visit Niagara en route.

I have been greatly interested in flying saucers ever since I read " Flying Saucers have Landed ", by George Adamski and Desmond Leslie, soon after the book was published and I met Mr. Leslie at a Meeting when he was the principal Speaker and Mr. Ben Herrington was the Chairman, in Manchester in 1954. Hearing that George Adamski had published a further book entitled " Inside the Space Ships " this year, I determined to get a copy and did so, when in America, and this confirmed my belief in the actuality of both Saucers and Space Ships. Nevertheless, I did not anticipate that I would be likely to get a sighting but, on July 28, when staying with my friends in New York State, I was sitting on a long covered veranda—I believe they call it a " porch "—built so that it appeared to overhang the Lake and with an uninterrupted view of many miles, and Lake Ontario being about 40 miles wide at this point it looked to me more like the sea than a lake. At about 7.30 p.m. I suddenly noticed, high in the sky and on an angle of about 70° to the lake, three " unidentified objects " flying in an easterly direction, and rising higher all the time. They were at precisely the same distance from each other and appeared to have a kind of luminous belt of milky-white radiance surrounding each one. My host saw me watching them and asked me what I thought they were. I replied " Well, I should say they must be flying saucers " and I was somewhat surprised when he remarked " Shouldn't wonder ", as I anticipated that I might meet with scepticism. We watched as the three saucers vanished from sight, in only a matter of moments, when he said, " H'm they've gone, whatever they were ". Unfortunately, I was then called away by my friend and we had no opportunity to continue our talk but I shall never forget this amazing experience. The next day I was off to Winnipeg but I never heard that these three saucers were mentioned in the press or otherwise, although it seems almost impossible that others did not see them.

Like others who are interested in these visitations from outer space, I can offer no actual explanation as to the reason why they come to our planet but my personal opinion is that the atomic bombs that have been released in the past ten years have caused much speculation in other inhabited planets, to the extent that they have felt it necessary to come and make personal investigation. They may even fear lest we cause such a gigantic upheaval that our earth itself disappears or disintegrates, thus throwing out of balance the other planets in our orbit. Our knowledge of the vast Universe of which we are such a very minute part is so limited and our entire notions of time and space so very liable to be totally inaccurate that we are unable to form a definite opinion

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Phenomena of Angel Hair

(*Continued from page* 18)

long step forward in the knowledge of u.f.o.s will have been made. Angel hair will fall again no doubt in other areas. Let us hope that some success will be achieved before long in securing suitable samples of this elusive material definitely associated with u.f.o.s, and that chemical and physical tests can be made before it completely disintegrates.

The purpose of this discussion is primarily the presentation of evidences for the purpose of establishing the reality of u.f.o. phenomena and the existence of the material known as angel hair. As has been pointed out, the findings are based not only upon newspaper and other printed accounts, but also upon the testimonies of witnesses in the form of letters to the author. Included in the testimonies are the statements of school teachers and children, statements the truth of which no reasonable-minded person would doubt. Some analyses have been attempted of the fibrous material—apparently without much success. It is to be hoped that scientists will be challenged by the facts here presented and that scientific groups will sponsor the further investigation of these phenomena.

It is also urged that the United States and other governments change their policies of withholding u.f.o. facts from the general public, and that all newsagencies, the radio and television broadcasting companies, newspapers and current periodicals, and professional scientists also, desist from the very damaging current practice of ridicule of u.f.o. reports and persons connected with the serious investigation of these phenomena.

The author recognises with great appreciation the co-operation of two fellow members of the Civilian Saucer Intelligence of New York in furnishing factual material for this study, Mr. Ted Bloecher, Director of Research, and Mr. Lex Mebane, Secretary/Treasurer. The author takes all responsibility for the speculative material of this article, and realises full well that many will disagree with him.

as to the relevance of an upheaval such as I have mentioned. We all know the apparently endless concentric circles caused when we throw even a modest-sized pebble into the ocean and who can say the cumulative effect of atom-bombs released into space? It is obvious that even our greatest scientists are far behind those of other planets and our progression, which appears to us to be rapid, may still be a slow motion picture to those who appear to watch us with so much interest. However, since it now becomes a matter of certainty rather than one of speculation as to the reality of flying saucers, it behoves us all to keep a wide mental vision and to increase our knowledge of this great subject wherever and whenever the chance confronts us: more, to consistently seek for every possible opportunity.

N. M. ETHERIDGE, (MRS.)
Bournemouth, Hants.

I.I.S.S.D. and Correlation

Sir,

The article in your July/August issue, summarising results of the International Sighting Day on June 30, described two sightings in the London area, at Barnes and Bexleyheath. Since certain details in my report of the Barnes sighting were not published and have a bearing on possible correlation with the object seen at Bexleyheath, they are again given in the belief that they will be of interest in assessing the value of such organised occasions.

Time of Barnes sighting 14.41 hours B.S.T. Estimated height of object 20,000 feet, the same as at Bexleyheath. At Barnes it was the cloud, and not the object, that was approaching from the south. The disc itself was travelling extremely slowly, across-wind, on a course of about 110 degrees, i.e. 20 degrees south of east. Such a course, if continued, would have taken it over, or just south of, Bexleyheath.

The second sighting occurred, I am informed, about 20 minutes later, and, since it lasted 8½ minutes, was also of a slow-moving object. It is interesting to note that both reports specifically refer to sharpness of outline.

C. A. HEATHCOTE,
Barnes, London, S.W.13.

Those Charred Roots

Sir,

I was much interested in an article that appeared in the July-August issue of F.S.R., that appeared under the heading of "Unanswered Questions." This dealt with the matter of the mysteriously charred grass roots in the J. D. "Sonny" Desvergers case. The events of this particular sighting have been reported so often that I am confident that it is unnecessary to repeat them in detail. Unquestionably, the most accurate report of this particular case appears in "The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects" by Edward Ruppelt, an extremely fine book which I am sure that most persons with more than a passing interest in the subject has scanned. It was when I read that book that the interesting and provoking business about the charred roots first came to my attention. I had never seen a word about it before in print. I wish that I could say that I had the answer to the question. Perhaps induction heating from the tremendous magnetic field of a flying saucer did char the grass roots, I doubt if anyone will ever learn the truth. I am in possession of some additional information in regard to this case, which, so far as I know, also has never appeared in print before. However, before I tell you my story, let me tell how I came into possession of the facts.

In the interest of an interview that would attract a great deal of attention in the area where I live (Jacksonville, Florida), a news broadcaster on one of our local television stations, WMBR-TV, arranged to have Mr. Desvergers come up to Jacksonville from West Palm Beach for a personal interview and to discuss the details of the sighting for the television audience. Unfortunately, I was out of town at this particular time, but because of the tremendous popular response to the interview, the television station arranged to have Mr. Desvergers return several months later for a repeat interview for those who may have missed the first one. Being personally acquainted with some of the gentlemen who operate WMBR-TV, I arranged to be there in person and to talk with Mr. Desvergers face-to-face before his broadcast and, naturally, to watch the televised interview. Let me now state that Mr. Desvergers appeared to me to be perfectly honest, sincere, and forthright in his conversation and completely frank and accommodating in every way; completely willing to answer any and all questions that were asked of him. He even produced the broken machete with which he struck the side of the saucer. As we are all doubtless aware, aging, the simple passage of time improves wines and cheeses, and so it was with Mr. Desvergers' story of his contact with the flying saucer. Having read and remembered the original incident as it appeared in the Associated Press story in our local papers and having read a dozen restatements of the facts as they appeared in various books and magazines, I was struck with several curious changes or improvements. The original incident, as was originally reported ended approximately with Mr. Desvergers having been shot at by some sort of burning fireball and thus rendered unconscious, and upon his awakening, the saucer had vanished. In the time that elapsed from the actual occurrence and when I spoke with Mr. Desvergers, a few additions to the story appeared. He told me that he got aboard the rim-like edge of the saucer and engaged in active fisticuffs with about three of the occupants of the saucer, whom he described as having a humanoid appearance, clothed in some sort of greyish clothing and having a sweaty odour about them. He also said that he easily overpowered the three, that they seemed not to be especially strong or muscular and that as his fists struck them they had a very soft feel, I presume not unlike a very over-ripe banana. During the struggle on the saucer, the saucer flew a moderate distance, but finally Mr. Desvergers fell, jumped from, or was pushed off the saucer to the ground.

I am in no way suggesting that Mr. Desvergers' story is not anything but utterly true, but I must comment that it is curious to me that all these important details never appeared before in other reports I have read. Another striking thing is that Mr. Desvergers must be a man of unusual poise, assurance, and sophistication not to be rather excited and stimulated by such an occurrence, yet his story has persistently been brimful of intimate detail of events, events which took place in very poor lighting conditions at best.

As I stated at the beginning, I cannot answer the "unanswered question", and I for one wish devoutly that everything occurred exactly as Mr. Desvergers stated it and that the grass was charred by the induced heating of the soil in an alien magnetic field, I simply wanted to give you some additional facts of which you possibly were not aware. I regret that I was unable to take notes at the time of the interview and thus give you a little more detail but I assure that my memory serves me accurately on the gross points mentioned above.

DONALD W. HOWELL,
Jacksonville, Florida, U.S.A.

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